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PHOTO: DANIEL QUINN

## GRELLA GLAD TO BE BACK

# HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS!

By Daniel Quinn

Melbourne Heart have unveiled former Socceroo Vince Grella as their latest signing to the media this as Coach John Aloisi praised his new signing and revealed his excitement of the arrival of his ex-Socceroos teammate.

"It's very exciting for a number of reasons. I know the type of player Vinnie is because I've played with him for quite a few years and it's a player we've been looking for, a defensive midfielder that can control the game.

"Tactically he is as good as I've ever played with so that makes life easier for a coach because he can pass on the information out on the pitch and as a professional he is as good as they get.

"He's, along with Paul Okon, the best defensive midfielder this

country has ever produced so I think it's great for the Heart and it's great for me to have a player of Vinnie's calibre."

Aloisi believes that Grella would be an important figure on the pitch in controlling the game and that his tactical experience will be pivotal.

"Vince will help control the game a lot better so when we do need to keep the ball we can keep it and wait for the right time to penetrate the opposition.

"Defensively tactically I don't think there's been many better that have played in the National Team. He knows when we can start to press or drop off in certain areas and doesn't really need to tackle, can lead a player into a certain area where he's going to be under certain pressure so we can win the ball back," Aloisi said. Despite rarely playing in the past

two seasons at Blackburn Rovers Grella explained his individual training regimes to get himself back on the comeback trail.

"I had a little down spell and got back into training. I did a bit of work with my old physical trainer from Empoli which was really good for me. He gave me the confidence, just got me going and gave me that passion, enthusiasm that you need to be able to play at the top level.

"Unfortunately in that time I haven't had a lot of football training, that's why we're not putting any particular time scale on it (Grella's return to playing), we will just go in day by day and see how the body reacts to football training."

Aloisi realises that he and his medical staff are going to do everything they can to get the former Blackburn Rovers midfielder

on the park.

"We're aren't banking on him breaking down, we're going to help him play and that's why we're going to get our loading right with Vince, get the training right and makes sure we do everything possible to make sure he is on the pitch," Aloisi said.

But Grella revealed he wouldn't have joined the Heart if he was going to be positive about his injuries.

"Unfortunately the last two years haven't been positive, but if I thought I wasn't going to be positive I wouldn't have come in the first place," Grella said.

Grella put his decision to sign for the Heart down to Aloisi understanding his current situation, while he is impressed with Heart's facilities, culture and environment.

"When I was here in the summer

for a short time I met up with John (Aloisi), I saw the facilities and I saw the environment and the culture at Melbourne Heart and that helped my decision a couple weeks ago to move back and continue my footballing career.

"Yes there were some options in Europe and in some other countries, but I decided considering the last two years I needed to go to a place where the people knew me, that the club would also understand the situation I've been in and not rush me back.

"Speaking to John the last month he clearing understands, the club understands my situation so I thought for me this was the best place to come back and play, enjoy my football and have a role outside the football field and help the young players also develop."

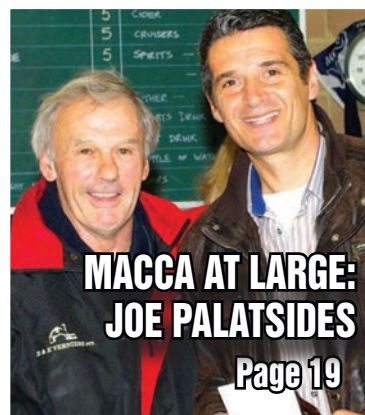
## This Week's Line Up



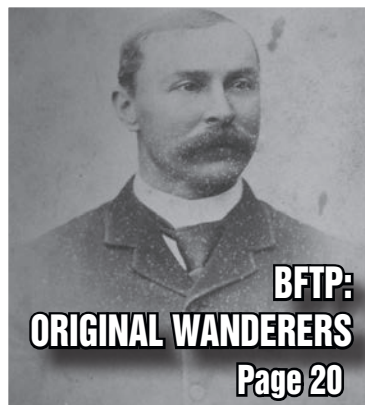
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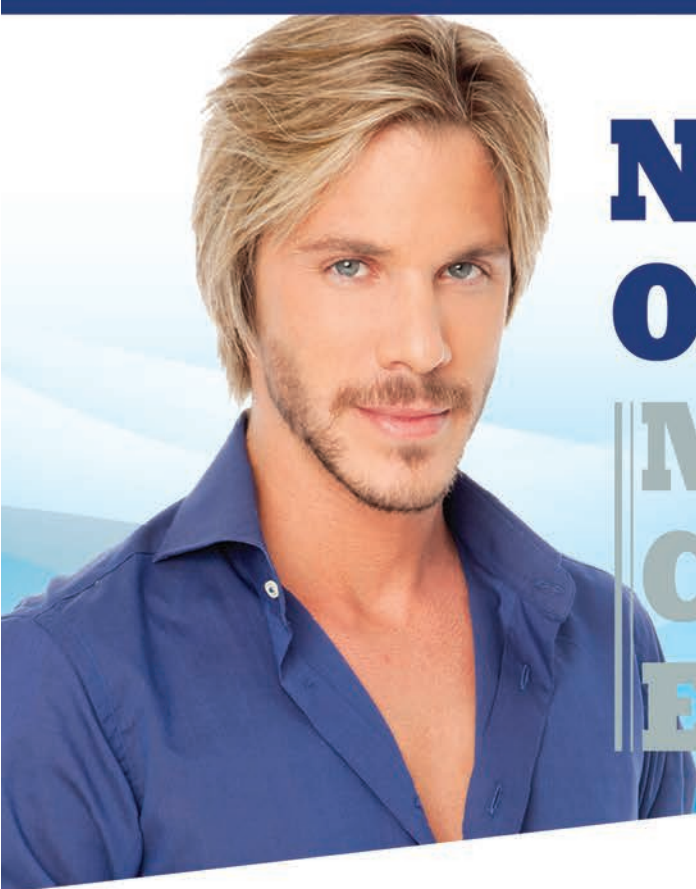
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# Socceroos to take on the Korea Republic



**Football Federation Australia and the Korea Football Association announced that the Qantas Socceroos will meet the Korea Republic in an international friendly match at the Hwaseong Stadium, Hwaseong in the Korea Republic on Wednesday 14 November 2012 (kick-off 7:00pm local, 9:00pm AEDT).** This will be the twenty-fifth match between the Korea Republic and Australia at senior men's international level after the team's last met at the Al Gharafa Stadium in Doha, Qatar in the group phase of the AFC Asian Cup Qatar 2011 where they played out an enthralling 1-all draw.

Qantas Socceroos Head Coach Holger Osieck is looking to use the match the match against the Korea Republic to fine tune his team for the remainder of the 2014 FIFA World Cup Asian qualification campaign.

"This will be another important game as part of our preparation for the second phase of this round of qualifiers," said Osieck.

"We are now at the halfway mark and we need to focus on our remaining qualification matches. "It's always a challenge to face the Korea Republic, who are currently sitting at the top of their group, and the match will serve as a good comparison test for us," concluded Osieck.

The Qantas Socceroos are currently ranked 34th in the FIFA World Rankings whilst the Korea Republic are currently 25th (as of 3 October 2012).

The Qantas Socceroos are currently in second position of Group B with a win against Iraq (2-1), draws against Oman (0-0) and Japan (1-1) and a loss to Jordan (1-2) at the half way point of the final round of the 2014 FIFA World Cup Asian Qualifiers.

The Korea Republic are at the top of Group A with wins against Qatar (4-1) and Lebanon (3-0), a draw against Uzbekistan (2-2) and a loss to Iran (0-1).

**This match will be broadcast Live & Exclusive on FOX SPORTS.**

## Cassio set to reach milestone against Phoenix



**Saturday's home match against the Wellington Phoenix on Saturday will carry added significance for Adelaide United left back Cassio, with the Reds' pocket rocket on the brink of making his 100th Hyundai A-League appearance.**

Into his sixth season in Australia, Cassio's tally of Hyundai A-League matches currently stands at 99, meaning he will reach the milestone in front of the Adelaide United faithful at Hindmarsh if, as expected, he lines up against Wellington.

Only former captain Travis Dodd (137), current skipper Eugene Galekovic (117), Robert Cornthwaite (103) and Lucas Pantelis (101) have made more Hyundai A-League appearances for the club, while defender Iain Fyfe is another in the Hyundai A-League's 100 club, although 88 of his games have been for Sydney FC.

A dual Adelaide United Club Champion, Cassio made 17 appearances in his first season, his debut Hyundai A-League goal coming against Melbourne Victory on October 31, 2008.

# Coe set for Victory start against Jets

By Daniel Quinn

**New Melbourne Victory goalkeeper Nathan Coe comes straight into the starting-eleven against Newcastle Jets on Friday night for his Victory debut, but Gui Finkler will miss with an abductor strain, while Coach Ange Postecoglou expects another tough clash.**

With Socceroos 'keeper Coe starting Tando Velaphi drops to the bench and Postecoglou, who worked with Coe during the National Youth setup, believes Coe will add plenty of quality to the Victory side.

"He (Nathan Coe) was signed because he is a quality player. Obviously an opportunity arose for us with Danny (Allsopp) retiring that we could bring in another player and Nathan was the only one I spoke with and I was keen to get him because I know him well. "He (Nathan Coe) brings quality to our squad and from that point of view really pleased to get him, I think he would add significantly to what we've got."

But Postecoglou thinks Velaphi and Lawrence Thomas will relish working with Coe everyday in training, despite their future being in doubt.



New Victory keeper Nathan Coe will be rushed into the line up for the big clash against in-form Newcastle jets. Photo: JORDAN LIM

"As a sportsman job security is not what drives you. I reckon Tando (Velaphi) will be pretty excited having a guy working with him everyday that has played for the Socceroos and I'm sure Tando and Lawrence Thomas have aspirations to be the best goalkeeper that they can be, and hopefully get to that level one day, so the fact they have someone like that next to them everyday I'd be excited.

"Depends what your end game is and if your end game is job security then obviously someone in his (Velaphi's) position will be disappointed, but I don't think that's what Tando and Lawrence are about."

Postecoglou and Melbourne Victory realises that the trip to Newcastle will be tough, but it's important to start picking points up on the road.

"There are always tough games

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and Newcastle is always a tough game, but if you want to really make some sort of impression on the league you got to pick up points away from home for sure. For us it's really important, particularly that we have already dropped one home game, that we start picking up some points on the road, whilst tomorrow's a tough trip, that is certainly our intention.

"I even felt when I was coaching Brisbane, we got a couple results there (Hunter Stadium), but it's always a tough game, it's always a scrappy game. I think if we can go there and get something out of this game it will set us up well for the rest of the season."

But after defeating Adelaide United last week Postecoglou believes his side has a little more confidence.

"They (the squad) probably got a little bit of belief out of last week. They can feel better about things because of the result and performance."

In more squad news Finkler won't be risked against the Jets, but should be fit to start next week against the Wellington Phoenix as Jonathan Bru replaces the Brazilian, while Billy Celeski pushes forward.

## Okon names Young Socceroo squad for UAE

**Qantas Young Socceroos Head Coach Paul Okon has included thirteen players from the ranks of the Hyundai A-League Clubs and ten overseas based players in his 23-player squad for the upcoming AFC U-19 Championship which will be held in the United Arab Emirates from 1-17 November 2012.**

### Young Socceroos Squad

Terry ANTONIS (Sydney FC), Mustafa AMINI (Borussia Dortmund, GER), Joshua BRILLANTE (Newcastle Jets), Corey BROWN (Brisbane Roar), Reece CAIRA (Wanderers), Connor CHAPMAN (Newcastle Jets), Travis COOPER (VVV Venlo, HOL), Jack DUNCAN (gk) (Newcastle Jets), Ryan EDWARDS (Reading FC, ENG), Corey GAMEIRO (FC Eindhoven, HOL), Ben GARUCCIO (Melbourne Heart), Jason GERIA (Brisbane Roar), Curtis GOOD (Newcastle United, ENG), Jackson IRVINE (Celtic, SCot), Paul IZZO (gk) (Adelaide Utd), Liam JACOB (gk) (Oldham Athletic, ENG), Tom KING (Bristol City FC, ENG), Jamie MA-CLAREN (Blackburn Rovers, ENG), Hayden MORTON (Mariners), Mitchell OXBORROW (Newcastle Jets), Adam TAGGART (Newcastle Jets), David VRANKOVIC (Melbourne Heart), Ryan WILLIAMS (Fulham, ENG).



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Goal! Weekly - Friday 26th October 2012







## Melbourne Victory



2

## Adelaide United



1

## Match Details

**Melbourne Victory 2** (Mark Milligan 52', Marco Rojas 67')  
**Adelaide United 1** (Dario Vidosic 49')  
 Venue: Etihad Stadium  
 Friday, 19 October 2012  
 Referee: Peter Green  
 Assistant Referees: Hakan Anaz And Patrick Chaplin  
 Fourth Official: Lucien Laverdure  
 Attendance: 19,174

**Melbourne Victory:** 1. Tando Velaphi, 2. Matthew Foschini, 3. Adama Traore, 4. Petar Franjic, 5. Mark Milligan, 7. Guilherme Finkler, 9. Marcos Flores (17. Jimmy Jeggo 72'), 10. Archie Thompson, 11. Marco Rojas (16. Theo Markelis, 80'), 14. Billy Celeski (8. Jonathan Bru, 65'), 23. Adrian Leijer (C)

Unused Substitutes: 20. Lawrence Thomas  
 Yellow Cards: Marcos Flores 8', Mark Milligan 52', James Jeggo 88'.  
 Red Cards: Nil.

**Adelaide United:** 1. Eugene Galekovic, 2. Osama Malik, 3. Nigel Boogaard, 6. Cassio, 10. Dario Vidosic, 11. Bruce Djite, 12. Antony Golec, 14. Cameron Watson, 16. Daniel Bowles, 17. Iain Ramsay, 19. Jake Barker-Daish, 21. Jeronimo Neumann (8. Marcelo Carrusca 65'),

Unused Substitutes: 5. Iain Fyfe, 30. John Hall.  
 Yellow Cards: Dario Vidosic 26, Nigel Boogaard 90'.  
 Red Cards: Nil

# Victory Opens Up New Season Account

By Daniel Quinn

The Melbourne Victory have grabbed their first points of the new season, and under Ange Postecoglou, with a 2-1 win over Adelaide United at Etihad Stadium on Friday night.

Real chances were hard to come by in the first-half, but five minutes after the break Adelaide took the lead through Dario Vidosic from the spot.

But Victory replied immediately with a powerful Mark Milligan header, before Marco Rojas fired home with over twenty minutes to play.

Melbourne Victory started on the front foot and arguably should have had a penalty after Marcos Flores was bumped over in the box, but instead the former Red was booked for diving.

Victory moved the ball around nicely in the opening twenty minutes with Flores showing his class and linking up magnificently with Rojas and Archie Thompson. Meanwhile Billy Celeski and Milligan showed promises of the beginning of a great midfield partnership, controlling possession in the opening minutes.

Victory's best first-half chances came via Celeski from distance, but the midfielder couldn't find the target on either opportunity.

Jeronimo Neumann though should have given the Reds the lead just before the break, but somehow fired wide after turning Milligan, with only Tando Velaphi, in for Lawrence Thomas, to beat. But five minutes into the second-half Celeski, who was putting in a great performance, handed Adelaide a golden chance to take the lead by handling in the box.

Vidosic stepped up to the spot and sent Velaphi the wrong way giving the Reds the lead. But Adelaide would only hold the lead for two minutes as a curling



Flying High: Fresh from Socceroo duty Mark Milligan (Victory) soars highest to head home powerfully. Photo: DANIEL FLIS

Melbourne Victory	Match Stats	Adelaide United
3	Saves	2
4	Attempts on target	5
7	Attempts off target	4
47%	Possession	53%
5	Corners	5
4	Offsides	3
16	Fouls committed	14

Gui Finkler free-kick was emphatically headed home by Milligan sending the Victory faithful into raptures.

With the score at 1-1 the points were up for grabs and Nigel Boogaard surprisingly almost gave United the advantage with a long range effort, but the central defender unfortunately struck the crossbar.

Flores continued his outstanding performance, and against his former club, playing Thompson through the centre, but the Socceroo dragged his effort wide with

only Eugene Galekovic to beat.

But on 67 minutes Victory's wasted chances would be made up for as a Thompson cross was chested onto the crossbar by Boogaard, before Rojas nodded the follow up effort onto the upright. But Rojas wasn't going to be denied the rebound firing past Galekovic to give Victory the lead in an action packed couple of minutes.

Despite taking the lead Victory wanted more and almost got a third, although Matthew Foschini's wonderful volley was tapped over by Galekovic.

Melbourne Victory Coach Ange Postecoglou believed his side were solid unlike previous weeks. "We were more solid tonight, we still have a lot of work to do on our football, but tonight we were solid and we needed to be after last week up in Brisbane, and the boys handled it well."

Adelaide United boss John Kosmina thought his side should have taken something from the game, but leave with nothing.

"We should've (taken something from the game). I think in the first-half we didn't assert our-

selves enough as we should have, having said that we had moments where we did and things worked how we planned.

"Jeronimo ended up with one and a half, maybe two one-on-ones that you would expect, especially the second one you'd expect him to finish it and when you miss chances like that against a team like Melbourne generally you pay the price later on."

Follow Daniel on Twitter: @Quinby07



Kiwi international Marcos Rojas (Victory) slams home after nicely anticipating a third bite of the cherry. Photo: DANIEL FLIS



Dario Vidosic (Adelaide United) sends Tando Velaphi (Victory) the wrong way to give the league leaders the lead. Photo: DANIEL FLIS

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## Newcastle Jets

# 2

## CC Mariners

# 1

## Match Details

**Newcastle Jets 2** (Griffiths 5', Heskey 61')

**Central Coast Mariners 1** (Ibini 71')

Referee: Ben Williams

Crowd: 15,289

Hunter Stadium, Newcastle

**Newcastle Jets:** 20. Mark Birighitti (Gk), 3. Tiago Calvano, 4. Josh Mitchell, 5. Dominik Ritter, 8. Ruben Zadkovich, 9. Emile Heskey (6. Ben Kantarovski 80'), 14. Taylor Regan (12. Joshua Brillante 70'), 15. Craig Goodwin, 16. Jobe Wheelhouse (c), 17. James Virgili (22. Adam Taggart 84'), 23. Ryan Griffiths

Subs not Used: 1. Ben Kennedy (Gk)

Yellow Cards: Zadkovich, Virgili, Heskey, Mitchell

Red Cards: None

**Central Coast Mariners:** 1. Mathew Ryan (Gk), 2. Daniel McBreen, 3. Joshua Rose, 4. Pedj Bojic, 6. Patrick Zwaanswijk, 7. John Hutchinson (c), 10. Tomas Rogic (5. Zac Anderson 88'), 14. Michael McGlinchey, 16. Trent Sainsbury, 18. Nick Montgomery (12. Troy Hearfield 83'), 21. Mile Sterjovski (9. Bernie Ibini 58')

Subs not Used: 20. Justin Pasfield (Gk)

Yellow Cards: McGlinchey, Bojic, McBreen

Red Cards: None

# High-Flying Jets Take Out F3 Derby Honours

By Shaun Dyas

## Mariners Left Fuming Over Late Disallowed Equaliser

The Newcastle Jets have beaten the Central Coast Mariners 2-1 in a controversial F3 derby in front of 15,289 fans at Hunter Stadium

Jets striker Ryan Griffiths was on target from the spot for the home side and Emile Heskey tapped in his second goal in as many games.

Substitute Bernie Ibini was on target for the visitors who almost equalised in the dying moments of the match.

A hopeful long ball was played up the pitch from the Mariners and was headed into the net by an unmarked Patrick Zwaanswijk after some hesitation from Newcastle keeper Mark Birighitti. The away players and fans erupted in ecstasy as they thought their team had taken what would have been a deserved point. It wasn't to be as the referee's assistant ruled the imposing Dutchman offside, much to the delight of the home fans.

Mariners coach Graham Arnold told the media at the ensuing press conference that he was less than happy with referee Ben Williams' performance.

"I just thought it was a pretty average performance from the ref," a disgruntled Arnold said after the match. "My blood pressure has gone through the roof."

When quizzed about the earlier penalty he didn't mince his words.

"Mickey McGlinchey weighs 67 kilos and big Emile Heskey weighs 100 kilos," he said.

Arnold was more pleased with the effort of his side, which controlled long periods of the game without any joy on the scoreboard.

"It was a fantastic performance by the boys. I judge the team on their performance. Our combinations and touches were first class."

Despite the Mariners having the majority of the play, it was Newcastle who took an early lead after a poor piece of defending from the Mariners in the 4th minute. The ball was turned over by the Mariners and Heskey pounced on the loose ball before being clipped from behind by Michael McGlinchey.



Feeling The Force: Mark Birighitti (Jets Keeper) holds no bar as Tom Rogic (Mariners) tangles. Photo: BEN NEVILLE

Ben Williams pointed to the spot and Ryan Griffiths did the rest, sending Mathew Ryan the wrong way and the crowd into delirium.

The early set back sparked the Mariners into life and they had the chance to equalise on 9 minutes. A mazy run from Mariners young gun Tomas Rogic was met by a crunching Tiago challenge on the edge of the area. The set piece was teed up for Dutch defender Patrick Zwaanswijk but was excellently charged down by goal scorer Griffiths.

Rogic continued to control proceedings for the visitors and had the

chance to put them level on 23 minutes. He weaved his way past numerous Jets defenders before sliding a shot from 12 metres towards the far post. The quick reflexes of re-called keeper Mark Birighitti denied him what would have been a deserved equaliser.

Exciting Jets winger Craig Goodwin continually tormented the Mariners defence and almost set up the Jets second in the 35th minute. He whipped in a dangerous cross from the left flank which seemed destined to be met by Newcastle's English import Emile Heskey. The big number

9 could not believe that Ryan flung himself to the ball and managed to punch clear. The ball then cannoned into Griffiths who could not react in time and the Mariners survived.

The Jets came out on fire after half time and deserved to extend the lead in the 61st minute. Exciting winger James Virgili, having easily his best game in the A-league, beat both Josh Rose and Patrick Zwaanswijk on a mazy run down the Mariners left edge. He cut the ball back to the towering Englishman who has the simple task of side footing past Ryan and into the net from 6 yards.

The Mariners were again sparked back into gear and Ibini, who came on for Mariners winger Mile Sterjovski, put the visitors back into the contest 11 minutes later. Striker Daniel McBreen flicked on a tempting cross from the left edge to Kiwi Michael McGlinchey. He squared the ball up for Ibini and the youngster steered the ball past the helpless Birighitti.

Newcastle now faces Melbourne Victory at home next Friday, while the Mariners tackle the Heart in Melbourne next Sunday afternoon.



The Jets are on cloud 9 after taking top honours in the F# Derby.

Photo: BEN NEVILLE



What's an F3 Derby without some Argie-Bargie. Tempers rise as the both sets of players face up to each other.

Photo: PETER NEVILLE

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# Nix Keep Unbeaten Record Intact Against Champs

**Wellington Phoenix**

1

**Brisbane Roar**

1

**Match Details**

**Wellington Phoenix 1** (*Huysegems 16'*)

**Brisbane Roar 1** (*Berisha 39'*)

21 October 2012

Westpac Stadium, Wellington

Referee: Adam Kersey

**Wellington Phoenix squad:** 1. Mark Paston (GK), 2. Emmanuel Muscat, 3. Tony Lochhead, 5. Michael Boxall, 6. Alex Smith (17. Vince Lia 82'), 7. Leo Bertos, 8. Paul Ifill, 10. Stein Huysegems (61'), 11. Jeremy Brockie, 16. Louis Fenton (12. Tyler Boyd 70'), 18. Ben Sigmund (capt).

Substitutes not used: 20. Glen Moss (GK)

Yellow cards: Fenton (63')

Red cards: Nil

**Brisbane Roar squad:** 1. Michael Theo (GK), 2. Matt Smith (capt), 3. Shane Stefanutto, 4. Matt Jurman, 6. Erik Paartalu, 7. Besart Berisha, 8. Massimo Muroccca, 11. Ben Halloran (10. Henrique 77'), 17. Mitch Nichols, 19. Jack Hingert (13. Yuki Takahashi 90'+1), 22. Thomas Broich.

Substitutes not used: 20. Matt Acton (GK), 24. Nick Fitzgerald.

Yellow cards: Stefanutto (18')

Red cards: Nil

By Joe Gallagher

In a game that never quite lived up to expectations, Wellington Phoenix have maintained their unbeaten start to the season with a 1-1 draw with Brisbane Roar in Wellington on Sunday evening.

Ricki Herbert will be pleased with a point given the champions' dominance, but Rado Vidosic will be equally relieved after a frenetic Wellington start threatened to hand the Roar their second defeat of the campaign.

Wellington welcomed back their coach and seven players from international duty, with only Glen Moss and Benjamin Totori failing to make the starting eleven. Their chances were dealt a blow only one day from kick-off, with captain Andrew Durante ruled out by illness.

Vidosic's only change from the 5-0 drubbing of Melbourne Victory was to introduce Jack Hingert – a Phoenix triallist just a season ago – in place of Ivan Franjic. With the attacking stocks available to him – the likes of Besart Berisha, Thomas Broich and Mitch Nichols especially running rampant in the win against Melbourne – Vidosic would have been hopeful of another impressive attacking display against a weakened Wellington defence.

Phoenix defender Leo Bertos nearly teed up both Jeremy Brockie and Paul Ifill with a cross after a quarter of an hour. His cross was excellent, but evaded the two attackers each by inches, but the deadlock was broken in the 16th minute.

Ifill's volleyed cross eventually found its way to Stein Huysegems, and the Belgian striker made no mistake from twelve yards, firing past Michael Theo. It is the second goal for Huysegems this season, and he is quickly developing a name for himself in New Zealand's capital. At that point Wellington were comfortably on top, and the lead was no more



Kickin' It Kiwi Style: Paul Ifill (Phoenix) and Erik Paartalu (Roar) raise the leather stakes. Photo: PETER McDONALD

	Wellington Phoenix	Brisbane Roar
2	Saves	2
5	Attempts on target	4
4	Attempts off target	2
43%	Possession	57%
4	Corners	4
6	Offsides	2
13	Fouls committed	8

than they deserved.

Only two minutes later they might have doubled it – Louis Fenton won a free kick on the edge of the penalty area, from which Theo was forced to palm over the crossbar. It was another strike from Ifill whose opening half hour was reminiscent of his industrious best for Wellington.

But it was at that point that the momentum of the game swung. Wellington were being muscled off the ball, and Brisbane's revered passing game was allowed to develop. Their attacking trio of Broich, Berisha and Nichols were

allowed space on the ball, with Berisha especially troubling Wellington's defence throughout.

Half an hour in, the Albanian had his first chance, turning inside Michael Boxall and firing a low effort that Paston did well to save in the Wellington goal. It should have offered a warning sign for the hosts who were becoming increasingly likely to be beaten for 50-50 balls in the middle third of the pitch.

It was a warning they didn't heed as five minutes later, Berisha surged into the penalty area and crossed to Nichols. Paston's

intervention was again crucial, sticking out a leg to deny Nichols his second goal of the campaign.

The alarm bells were well and truly ringing at that point, and just two minutes later Berisha found himself one-on-one with Paston again. This time, the A-League's leading marksman chipped coolly past Wellington's onrushing goalkeeper, and the Phoenix were lucky to enter the break level, given Brisbane's pressure towards the end of the half.

Whatever Herbert did say to his players at half time seemed to stop the bleeding. While Brisbane

were still given plenty of ball to play with, the Phoenix's defence did look markedly less porous during the second 45 minutes.

His goalscoring feats for Brisbane so far have been no coincidence, but on the hour Berisha was unlucky not to have scored one of his most fortuitous goals. As Massimo Muroccca's shot rebounded off Boxall and struck Berisha in the leg, Paston was left wrong-footed to watch as the ball trickled past his left hand up-right.

It was Brisbane's brightest moment of a dull second spell, the only other notable action a strike from Brockie which flew wide of Theo's goal.

Wellington dominated the final exchanges but were unable to take advantage of what little ball they did have, Brisbane's typically miserly midfield bossing the possession statistics throughout.

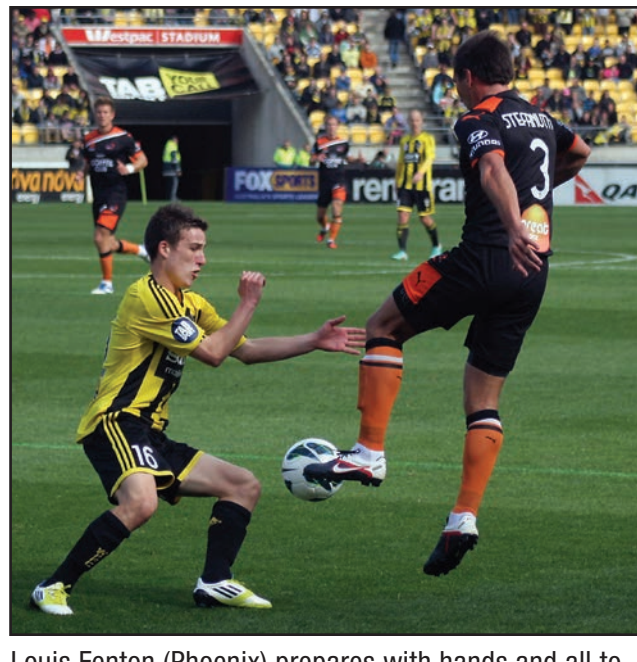
They will take heart from a point against the two-time champions who are again looming as this season's team to beat. Brisbane, too, should be proud of a point in a tricky away fixture to New Zealand.

The match was summed up by Berisha's embrace with Phoenix defender Ben Sigmund at full time; both players happy with a point and recognising the intensity of their battle all match.

Wellington now look forward to a tricky two-game road trip while Brisbane return to Queensland for two matches back-to-back at Suncorp.



Roar skipper Matt Smith is under pressure as Jeremy Brockie (Phoenix) quickly closes down the space. Photo: PETER McDONALD



Louis Fenton (Phoenix) prepares with hands and all to stop Shane Stefanutto (Roar). Photo: PETER McDONALD



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## Perth Glory

2

## Melbourne Heart

0

## Match Details

Perth Glory 2 (Heffernan 38, Mehmet 85)

Melbourne Heart 0

Crowd: 7,548 at nib Stadium, Perth

**Perth Glory squad:** 1.Danny Vukovic (gk), 4.Billy Mehmet, 5.Steve Pantelidis, 7.Jacob Burns (c), 8.Dean Heffernan (Chris Harold 75'), 10.Liam Miller, 11.Adrian Zahra, 13.Travis Dodd (Adrian Zahra 79'), 14.Steven McGarry (Nick Ward 75'), 19.Josh Risdon, 21.Scott Jamieson, 23.Michael Thwaite, Yellow cards: Thwaite 38', Burns 43'.

**Melbourne Heart squad:** 1. Clint Bolton (GK), 2. Michael Marrone, 5. Fred (c) (Josip Tadic 46'), 6. Patrick Gerhardt, 8. Matthew Thompson, 9. Dylan Macallister, 11. Richard Garcia, 15. David Williams (Jason Hoffman 69'), 16. Aziz Behich, 18. David Vrankovic, 23. Mate Dugandzic. Yellow cards: Macallister 40', Tadic 53'.

# Glory Turn On The Heat On A Hot Afternoon

By Juanita Shepherd

Despite the soaring heat Perth Glory fans yelled, cheered and whet their whistle at nib Stadium on Sunday when Glory went on to win the match 2-0 against Melbourne Heart in Round 3 of the Hyundai A-League Season.

It was a comprehensive victory for Glory; they dominated on home ground reclaiming their winning ways after their defeat against the Central Coast Mariners at Bluetongue Stadium last week. Even with Shane Smeltz missing in action due to a hamstring injury, Glory was nothing short of spectacular.

But it wasn't an easy win for Glory, under the Aloisi governance Melbourne Heart gave back as good as they got. It was almost endearing to see Coach John Aloisi barely sit down, but walk up and down yelling constructive instructions to his team which he was perpetually involved in. Ian Ferguson on the other hand simply sat back and enjoyed the game, almost smugly confident in a win for Perth Glory, even though it wasn't as easy to come by as everyone imagined it would be.

The Glory team retained possession of the ball as equally as Melbourne Heart did. Heart got close to a goal in the early minutes of the first half with a well taken free kick from David Williams, unfortunately Fred aiming for a goal sent the ball flying just over the cross bar. Williams spent the rest of the game shadowing Jacob Burns while Fred fell to the ground on more than one occasion halting the game. He eventually came off in the second half and was subsequently replaced by Josip Tadic.

The amount of drama in the Glory vs Heart game would send Hollywood script writers scrambling for their pens to concoct an Oscar winning story. Perth Glory's Michael Thwaite was given a yellow card by referee Matt Gillett when he collided with Heart player Richard Garcia resulting in a free kick for the Hearts. On the subject of free kicks Dylan Macallister received a yellow card for arguing with the ref, the Melbourne



Match Stats		
1	Saves	5
8	Attempts on target	1
11	Attempts off target	8
78%	Possession	52%
5	Corners	3
1	Offsides	2
16	Fouls committed	13

Glory Boys: Perth players celebrate after Billy Mehmet (centre) scored. Photo: CRAIG ECCLES

Heart striker wanted team mate David Williams to retake the free kick. Josip Tadic and Jacob Burns also received yellow cards. The drama continued throughout the entirety of the game with clashes, collisions and 'injuries' but what's football without a little bit of soap opera-esq play?

Both Glory and Heart played incredibly well and the opportunities to score were immense. One of the free kicks awarded to Heart in the first half resulted in an almost goal for the visitors when Williams took the kick which was too low and an easy save for Danny Vukovic. The game saw Vukovic make some amazing saves, his eyes were constantly on the ball and where his eyes travelled Vuk-

ovic's hands followed. His saves garnered the admiration of the Glory fans who gasped with delight every time he saved a potential goal. The Melbourne Heart could get through the Glory defences, they sped past Thwaite, Mehmet and Miller and dodged Pantelidis but they could not get past Vukovic's goal saving hands.

Clint Bolton an equally good goalie seemed to falter today letting in two goals for Glory who won the match points getting them one step closer to the grand final which they so desperately want. Dean Heffernan and Billy Mehmet made their presence well known in the box keeping Bolton on his toes. He managed to stop Heffernan from scoring in the 11th minute but his efforts to stop the left back from scor-

ing again were futile.

Heffernan smashed a goal in the 38th minute when he took the ball from a well-constructed corner by Liam Miller. The crowds went wild when Glory scored the goal in the first half and even though Melbourne Heart put on a burst of speed following the Glory goal they failed to score even with the extra 3 minutes awarded at the end of the first half.

The second half of the game followed the same pace as the first half, with Glory thirsty for more goals and Melbourne Heart determined to score whilst defending their own goal. Thompson, Garcia, Williams and Behich were ferocious in their efforts to thwart Glory but there just didn't quite pull it off, if only Williams was a bit more productive with

his crosses Heart would be more threatening.

Glory was on fire with the younger players proving their capabilities. When Zahra passed the ball to Harold he put on a burst of speed sending the Glory fans into a frenzy of anticipation, but he was presented with a one-on-one with Bolton and in his attempt to score kicked the ball to high. But the excitement of the almost goal reached boiling point with Billy Mehmet scored from a corner in the 84th minute securing Glory's infallible win.

Perth Glory could do no wrong playing on their home turf, but a word of caution to all who view Melbourne Heart as the underdog – under the guidance of John Aloisi they could soon become a force to be reckoned with!



Billy Mehmet (Glory) scores with a header which veers inside the near post. Photo: CRAIG ECCLES



Dean Heffernan (grounded) gets the home crowd buzzing as he scores from close range against his former club. Photo: CRAIG ECCLES

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## Jets Line Up

1. Ben KENNEDY (gk)
3. Tiago CALVANO
4. Josh MITCHELL
5. Dominik RITTER
6. Ben KANTAROVSKI
8. Ruben ZADKOVICH
9. Emile HESKEY
10. Bernardo RIBEIRO
12. Josh BRILLANTE
14. Taylor REGAN
15. Craig GOODWIN
16. Jobe WHEELHOUSE (c)
17. James VIRGILI
19. Michael BRIDGES
20. Mark BIRIGHITTI (gk)
22. Adam TAGGART
23. Ryan GRIFFITHS
30. Jack DUNCAN (gk)
- \*3 to be omitted

Ins: Bernardo RIBEIRO, Michael BRIDGES, Jack DUNCAN (gk)

Outs: Nil

Unavailable: James Brown (ankle), Scott Neville (groin)

## Newcastle Jets v Melbourne Victory

Fri Oct 26 Hunter Stadium 7:30pm

By Shaun Dyas

The Newcastle Jets face Ange Postecoglou and his new look Melbourne Victory on Friday night in round 4 of the Hyundai A-League at Hunter Stadium.

The match is set to be a cracker with both sides coming off last round 2-1 victories against The Central Coast Mariners and Adelaide United respectively.

Both teams will be desperate to implement their style of football on the match and this will be key to the outcome.

Postecoglou is trying to implement a similar game plan to the one which gave him so much success as Brisbane Roar coach, playing an up tempo, possession based brand of football with a high emphasis on playing the ball out from the back.

Newcastle on the other hand spent the entire pre-season working on implementing a high pressing system aimed at disrupting the ability of opponents to successfully play the ball out from the back.

Players like Craig Goodwin, James Virgili and Ruben Zadkovich will have key roles to play in upsetting the rhythm of the Victory as they attempt to distribute the ball. Their energy and athleticism is sure to be used by Coach Gary Van Egmond to shut down the Victory attacks as



quickly as possible.

If they are successful, there is no doubting that the Jets have the firepower to unlock the Victory, with both Ryan Griffiths and Emile Heskey picking up goals in each of the last two matches.

If the Victory rear-guard, led by former Jet Mark Milligan are able to play the ball through this initial pressure then we all know of the quality that the victory possesses in forward areas. If the ball arrives to the feet of players like Archie Thompson, Marco Rojas and Marcos Flores with time and space, then it is likely to be a difficult night for

the Jets back four.

The Jets central defensive pairing of Josh Mitchell and Tiago will have to remain on red alert and will not be able to hold a line too far up the park or they are likely to be burned in behind by the abundance of pace at the Victory's disposal.

One thing that will always be interesting to see is just how Van Egmond sends his side out to play.

The Jets have mostly been playing a 4-4-1-1 shape since the arrival of Englishman Heskey, with Griffiths just in behind the mar-quee man. It would not surprise if we see

an alteration to the shape of the team this week to enable more players in forward areas to press the Victory into error. The Jets have been using a 3-4-3 shape in pre-season and I feel that this may be the game in which they revert back to it.

I lean the way of the home side in this clash, pointing to their good record against the Victory in Newcastle and the fact the Victory are still trying to properly implement their possession based game which the Jets should be able to exploit.

**Kiss of Death  
Jets 2-1 Victory**

**The Odds**  
Jets 2.35  
Draw 3.40  
Victory 3.40



## Victory Line Up

1. Tando VELAPHI (GK)
2. Matthew FOSCHINI
3. Adama TRAORE
4. Petar FRANJIC
5. Mark MILLIGAN
6. Leigh BROXHAM
8. Jonathan BRU
9. Marcos FLORES
10. Archie THOMPSON
11. Marco ROJAS
13. Diogo FERREIRA
14. Billy CELESKI
15. Sam GALLAGHER
16. Theo MARKELIS
17. Jimmy JEGGO
19. Isaka CERNAK
23. Adrian LEIJER (c)
39. Nathan COE (GK)
- \*3 to be omitted

Ins: Nathan COE (GK) (new signing), Isaka CERNAK (promoted)

Outs: Lawrence THOMAS (GK) (omitted), Gui FINKLER (groin -1 week)

Unavailable: Nil



## Adelaide Utd Line Up

1. Eugene Galekovic (gk) (c)
2. Osama Malik
3. Nigel Boogaard
5. Iain Fyfe
6. Cassio
8. Marcelo Carrusca
9. Sergio van Dijk
10. Dario Vidossic
11. Bruce Djite
12. Antony Golec
14. Cameron Watson
16. Daniel Bowles
17. Iain Ramsay
18. Fabian Barbiero
19. Jake Barker-Daish
21. Jeronimo Neumann
22. Fabio Ferreira
30. John Hall (gk)
- \*3 to be omitted

Ins: Sergio van Dijk (promoted), Bruce Djite (promoted), Fabian Barbiero (promoted)

Outs: Nil

Unavailable: Jon McKain (leg - to be reviewed), Paul Izzo (gk) (international duty)

## Adelaide Utd v Wellington Phoenix

Sat Oct 27 Hindmarsh Stdm 5:30pm

By Andrew Bishara

Not many would have thought that the Wellington Phoenix would be the only unbeaten team in the competition, given their difficult start to the season. Yet Ricki Herbert's men have stuck to their guns and delivered three encouraging performances, despite facing the dilemma of losing players for the World Cup qualification.

The Phoenix now faces another daunting task, as they travel to Hindmarsh stadium to face John Kosmina's new reformed Reds team. Their last trip to Australia, they drew 1-1 with the Heart, despite having seven players and their coach missing, thanks to World Cup. After last week's draw with champions Brisbane, they have had a week's rest and with all their key players back to the line up.

Wellington are no longer the push overs of the competition and deserve more praise than they are receiving. Herbert has made them into a solid defensive unit, providing a platform for the creative and dangerous offensive to do their work. They have a team loaded with experienced players like Paul Ifill, Jeremy Brockie, Leo Bertos to Manny Muscat and Vince Lia in the middle to former Belgian international Stein Huysegems. The step now for the Phoenix is to move up a gear from "Top Four contenders" to "title challengers".



Adelaide on the other hand, is facing what the Phoenix did a couple of years ago: transition. Favourite son, John Kosmina has taken the reigns after his caretaker role at the end of last season. And United are very much looking like the old "Kosmina" team: extremely tight in the backline and deadly on the counterattack. This was no more evident than in the game against Victory last week, where they sat back, broke forward when needed too and were dangerous in the set pieces.

However, it might not be enough. Kosmina can be a little too defensive and might need to experiment

with his team pushing forward to putting more pressure on defences. After taking the lead against Victory, they sat back and before they knew it, found themselves a goal down. When that extra push was needed to take it to the Victory, they couldn't do it. This wasn't helped by the fact, that Kosmina left two of his strikers, Sergio Van Dyke and Bruce Djite back in Adelaide.

The pressure will be on Adelaide to bounce back this weekend and will be favourites, given the travel requirements of Wellington. Expect Kosmina to possibly go full gear and change the team around

for this weekend after he commented mid-week about the lack of effort from some of his players.

Wellington are under no illusion of the task that awaits before, but Herbert has a tough team, that fights for every point. With a week's rest and the stars returning, Herbert will be putting his best line-up on the pitch. Adelaide will come out guns blazing after last week's loss, but Herbert's Phoenix are made of sterner stuff and given their recent performances, they could pitch the points in Adelaide.

**Kiss of Death  
Adelaide 1-2 Phoenix**

**The Odds**  
AUFC 2.05  
Draw 3.40  
Phoenix 3.75



## Phoenix Line Up

1. Mark Paston (GK)
2. Manny Muscat
3. Tony Lochhead
6. Alex Smith
7. Leo Bertos
8. Paul Ifill
9. Benjamin Totori
10. Stein Huysegems
11. Jeremy Brockie
12. Tyler Boyd
16. Louis Fenton
17. Vince Lia
18. Ben Sigmund
20. Glen Moss (GK)
22. Andrew Durante (C)
28. Ricardo Clarke
- \*1 to be omitted

Ins: Andrew Durante (returns from illness), Ricardo Clarke (promoted).

Outs: Michael Boxall (omitted)

Unavailable: Lucas Pantelis (knee injury - indefinite), Mirjan Pavlovic (medical condition - indefinite), Dani Sanchez (knee injury - 5 weeks).

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## Roar Line Up

Michael Theo (GK)  
2. Matt Smith (capt.)  
3. Shane Stefanutto  
4. Matt Jurman  
6. Erik Paartalu  
7. Besart Berisha  
8. Massimo Muroccia  
10. Henrique  
11. Ben Halloran  
13. Yuji Takahashi  
14. Rocky Visonte  
16. Do Dong-Hyun  
17. Mitch Nichols  
18. Luke Brattan  
19. Jack Hingert  
20. Matt Acton (GK)  
22. Thomas Broich  
24. Nick Fitzgerald  
\*3 to be omitted

Ins: Luke Brattan (promoted), Rocky Visconte (promoted), Do Dong-Hyun (promoted)

Outs: Nil

Unavailable: Ivan Franjic (abdominal strain – one week)

## Brisbane Roar v West Syd Wanderers

Sat Oct 27 Suncorp Stadium 7:45pm

By Jarrod Ellis

After a hard-fought draw with Wellington Phoenix last week-end Brisbane Roar return home this Saturday to welcome West Sydney Wanderers to Suncorp Stadium.

The match will be the first time the two sides have met in competition, Wanderers of course only playing the fourth A-League match in their history.

The newly-founded club are yet to record a win but there have been promising signs over their first three games and Tony Popovic will no doubt be hoping that his side can continue their strong defensive record when they take to the Suncorp Stadium pitch.

Wanderers have only conceded two goals so far this season, equal second best in the A-League and that coupled with the fact that they have only allowed 19 shots in that time frame shows just how tidy the A-League's newest team have been at the back.

That defensive solidity will need to continue on Saturday night against a Brisbane side that put five goals a past Melbourne Victory when they last played at home. Last week-end's match against Wellington Phoenix of course ended in a less impressive score line but the signs were there that Brisbane is a team on it's game.

Integral to their success so far this season has been the play of Albanian striker Besart Berisha. Already with three goals to his



The Odds  
Roar 1.36  
Draw 5.50  
WSW 9.00

## Wanderers To Face Stern Test Against Champs

name this season a fourth would see Berisha move into top spot on Brisbane's all-time goal scoring list, a position currently held by Sergio Van Dijk.

Under new coach Rado Vidosic, Berisha has so far shown an increased variation in his game, a tendency to drop deep to collect the ball before running at defences, allowing Mitch Nichols and Thomas Broich to move ahead in support. This tactic gave Wellington some trouble last weekend and with West Sydney likely to try to play on the counter Berisha's ability to drop deep and pull his defender with him may give Brisbane an edge

they need.

While scoring goals hasn't been a problem for the Roar this season it's been just the opposite for the Wanderers, who so far are yet to record a goal in the A-League.

Last weekend Wanderers toiled doggedly and created several opportunities but were ultimately unable to trouble the scoresheet as they went down 1-0 in the inaugural Sydney derby.

Whilst likely to lack the passion on display last weekend, their fixture this week presents no less of a challenge. Despite showing some frailties at the back Brisbane have only conceded two goals to date

and with their home crowd behind them the Roar will be looking to test the A-League's new boys.

The Wanderers will need to come prepared and not allow Brisbane to dictate terms to them if they're to get a result. Plenty of teams have come to Suncorp looking to play on the counter and given their lack of firepower up front it's the most likely plan of attack for Tony Popovic's side. Brisbane do have their weaknesses and if luck goes their way it's still conceivable that the Wanderers could still claim their first A-League scalp.

Kiss of Death  
Roar 2-0 Wanderers



## Wanderers Line Up

1. Ante Covic (GK)  
2. Shannon Cole  
3. Adam D'apuzzo  
4. Nikolai Topor-Stanley  
5. Michael Beauchamp  
6. Jerome Polenz  
7. Labinot Haliti  
8. Mateo Poljak  
10. Aaron Mooy  
11. Tarek Elrich  
12. Tahj Minniecon  
13. Joey Gibbs  
14. Kwabena Appiah-Kubi  
17. Youssef Hersi  
19. Mark Bridge  
20. Jerrad Tyson (GK)  
21. Shinji Ono  
23. Jason Trifiro  
\* 3 to be omitted

Ins: 2. Shannon Cole, 12. Tahj Minniecon, 13. Joey Gibbs, 14. Kwabena Appiah-Kubi, 23. Jason Trifiro (all promoted)

Outs: 9. Dino Kresinger (injured), 18. Iacopo La Rocca (injured)

Unavailable: 15. Reece Caira (Qantas Young Socceroos)

MELBOURNE HEART



## Heart Line Up

1. Clint Bolton (GK)  
2. Michael Marrone  
4. Simon Colosimo  
5. Fred (c)  
6. Patrick Gerhardt  
8. Matthew Thompson  
9. Dylan Macallister  
10. Josip Tadic  
11. Richard Garcia  
15. David Williams  
16. Aziz Behich  
17. Jason Hoffman  
18. David Vrankovic  
19. Ben Garuccio  
20. Andrew Redmayne (GK)  
21. Steven Gray  
22. Nick Kalmar  
23. Mate Dugandzic  
\*3 to be omitted

Ins: 4. Simon Colosimo (returns from suspension), 19. Ben Garuccio (returns from international duty).

Outs: 14. Golgol Mebrahtu (fitness – one week), 13. Jonatan Germano (Fitness – undisclosed).

## Melbourne Heart v CC Mariners

Sun Oct 28 AAMI Park 3:00pm

By Ian Syson

This will be a contest featuring two stuttering starters.

While defensively sound, the Mariners have looked nothing like the incisive cutting edge team of the last two campaigns. As for the Heart, they started version 8 with a bang but then fell back to earth last week in the Perth heat.

I rather like the look of Melbourne Heart. Despite losing young Eli Babalj overseas, they are a well balanced unit, with numerous game-changing players, and play pretty attractive football. With Fred pulling the strings and supported staunchly at the back by Simon Colosimo and Patrick Gerhart, the Heart can break all over the park with the likes of Mate Dugandzic, Matt Thompson and David Williams, and Dylan McCallister also looks happy in his new home.

Michael Marrone looks great going forward (especially those long channel balls he plays into the danger zone) and Aziz Behich is frequently recommended to Holger Osieck as a future Socceroo. His battle with Pedj Bojic and Michael McGlinchey will be critical to the outcome of this game.

As for the Mariners, they will still be seething after the refereeing errors that all went against them in the F3 derby. If Zadkovic had



## It's A Heart-Starting Affair

The Odds  
Heart 2.75  
Draw 3.30  
Mariners 2.75

been sent off in the first minute, as he should have been, it would have been a very different game.

After two clean sheets, they conceded two last week (with a bit of help from Ben Williams – that were never a penalty!) and will be desperate to get back into their usual patterns. I've been a little concerned about Josh Rose this year. He's been easily one of the Mariners most consistent players in the last two years and was expected by many to get a Socceroos call up in last year's dead rubber against Saudi Arabia. This year he's looked a little off the pace (although the Mariners

are playing a different shape). He's not getting forward as much and was beaten far too easily by James Virgili last week for the Heskey goal.

But it's the getting forward the Mariners are missing. Their last two seasons have heavily featured Bojic and Rose attacking the space down the flanks and it looks as though they've been told to play more conservatively to maintain the back six fortress. This puts a lot of pressure on Tom Rogic to create chances and he's being double-teamed by every defence he encounters.

I expect this game to be close.

When they're not being hand-capped by the referee, the Mariners are very hard to score against – but they don't score many themselves. It's screaming draw to me with the chances of either team winning coming down to a dodgy decision or a sublime piece of skill from a Rogic or a Behich.

The Heart will be a lot better than last week, but so will the Mariners.

Kiss of Death  
Heart 0-0 Mariners



## Mariners Line Up

1. Mathew Ryan (Gk)  
2. Daniel McBreen  
3. Joshua Rose  
4. Pedj Bojic  
5. Zachary Anderson  
6. Patrick Zwaanswijk  
7. John Hutchinson (c)  
8. Adriano Pellegrino  
9. Bernie Ibini  
10. Tomas Rogic  
11. Oliver Bozanic  
12. Troy Hearfield  
13. Brent Griffiths  
14. Michael McGlinchey  
15. Brad McDonald  
16. Trent Sainsbury  
18. Nick Montgomery  
19. Mitchell Duke  
20. Justin Pasfield (Gk)  
21. Mile Sterjovski  
23. Adam Kwasnik  
\*6 to be omitted

Ins: 8. Adriano Pellegrino, 11. Oliver Bozanic, 13. Brent Griffiths, 15. Brad McDonald, 19. Mitchell Duke, 23. Adam Kwasnik (all promoted)

Outs: Nil

Unavailable: Anthony Caceres (Elbow – 1 week), James Oates (Ankle – 2 months)

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## Sydney FC Line Up

- 1.Ivan Necevski (gk)
2. Sebastian Ryall
3. Fabio Alves
7. Brett Emerton
9. Paul Reid
10. Alessandro Del Piero
11. Dimi Petratos
12. Blake Powell
14. Mitch Mallia
15. Terry McFlynn (c)
17. Terry Antonis
18. Trent McClenahan
19. Kruno Lovrek
20. Vedran Janjetovic (gk)
21. Yairo Yau, 22. Ali Abbas.

Ins: Nil

Outs: 8. Adam Griffiths (hamstring, 3 weeks)

Unavailable: 4. Pascal Bosschaart (achilles tendon, 2 weeks), 5. Nathan Sherlock (groin, 4 weeks), 6. Jason Culina (leg, unknown), 16. Joel Chiarenese (quad, 3 weeks), 23. Rhyan Grant (not selected), 24. Hagi Gligor (not selected), 25. Daniel Petkovski (not selected)

By Con Stamocostas

There is a world famous Mural in Kings Street Newtown which is adorned by a huge portrait of Civil Rights legend Martin Luther King featuring an infamous "I Have A Dream" line from one of his speeches. Recently a companion piece Mural was added with the words "we have the dreaming". It's two Murals having a conversation with each other. No disrespect to both Murals but I think another Mural should be added add to the conversation with the words and picture of a certain little Italian number 10 that say:

.....and we have Del Piero

### Some Points from the Sydney FC/ Western Sydney FC Derby

No more naming roads after Derbys! Where is your sense of Theatre? Sarcasm Alert: Who would have thought a local derby based on geographical lines would ever work in Sydney? Everyone Farken! Sarcasm Alert: Who would have thought a team based in Western Sydney would engender so much pride & passion for their team? Everyone Farken! "One Team Per State" shouldn't be uttered within the realms of Australian Football again. Rugby Toffs and undercover AFL Agents shouldn't be allowed near our game again. Sydney FC looked to have finally woken up from their opening season slumber and it was 1 million Western Sydney fans hate of them that did the trick.

For ADP's first home game there was 35 thousand at the SFS and for the first Sydney Derby 22 thousand at Parramatta stadium with both



## SFC Lives The Italian Dream

sets of fans singing and dancing. Is this a dream? Don't wake me up. AFL would love such passion. NRL would love such crowds

### Western Sydney is the Soccerroos Factory

Ignoring the West of Sydney for so long with its rich history of supporting teams and producing Soccerroos is a Royal Fark Up. One which only Rugby Union and AFL administrators could have achieved. Frank Lowy must have been blinded drugged and kidnapped. Rugby said one team per city. AFL said Townsville and Gold Coast. Yet Western Sydney was still ignored. The same hacks who shit on the idea of WSW, who said "it was never going to work" They gushed over the AFL & GWS are now singing its praises!

Just consider what kind of players would be playing in the A-League if we had some of that AFL or NRL TV Money

More money should be invested in Marquee and Promotion of the A-League. What else you going to spend the money on? Invest it in education of coaches who play with no Strikers and try to teach un-coordinates kids how to play with both feet?

### The Perth Preview

Alessandro Del Piero has slow feet but a fast mind. He has been carrying the Sky Blues so far this season and he will do the same for Sydney FC against Perth Glory for ADP's 800th game.

Someone needs to warn Alessandro Del Piero about Jacob Burn and Steve Pantelidis both players have a

tendency to dive in early and often. I wonder like Wellington Phoenix if Perth Glory has a raffle going in who can butcher ADP and get away with it the most?

Imagine a Billy Mehmet type player fir Sydney FC? He is dangerous in the box with his feet and head. It's a novel experience watching an endangered species take the field and score goals like that.

Paul Reid has the midfield ticking for Sydney FC. Ali Abbas is wasted in DM and the Striker issue seems to be the running gag at Sydney FC this season.

But all that is prelude to what Alessandro Del Piero will do next.

**Kiss of Death  
Sydney FC 2-1 Glory**



## Glory Line Up

- 1.Danny Vukovic (gk)
- 3.Bas van den Brink
- 4.Billy Mehmet
- 5.Steve Pantelidis
- 6.Nick Ward
- 7.Jacob Burns (c)
- 8.Dean Heffernan
- 9.Shane Smeltz
- 10.Liam Miller
- 11.Adrian Zahra
- 12.Ryo Nagai
- 13.Travis Dodd
- 14.Steven McGarry
- 15.Brandon O'Neill
- 18.Jesse Makarounas
- 19.Josh Risdon
- 21.Scott Jamieson
- 22.Ndumba Makeche
- 23.Michael Thwaite
- 39.Devon Spence (gk)

\*\*Five to be omitted

Ins: 9.Shane Smeltz (returns from international duty), 11.Adrian Zahra 15.Brandon O'Neill, 18.Jesse Makarounas, 22.Ndumba Makeche (all promoted)

Outs: Nil

Unavailable: 16.Evan Berger (hamstring – 6 weeks)

# Even playing field provides pure excitement

## A-League Rewind



By Robert Di Fabio

The 2012-13 A-League season is shaping up to be the most hotly contested campaign in the competition's seven-year history. Only three rounds have been completed thus far; however there appears to be very little separating the best from the worst. Early front-runner Adelaide United holds a mere three-point advantage over the club it lost to last week – Melbourne Victory, in ninth position on three points.

Evidently, a competition which utilises a salary cap system, in conjunction with a restriction on player signing will reduce the inequality throughout the league. It provides an equal opportunity – in fiscal terms within the salary cap – for all clubs to realistically be competitive and of course, harbour ambitions of being crowded champions.

These elements are what draw the Australian sporting public

towards our major codes. Without the salary cap, bigger clubs would consistently dominate, leaving the weaker clubs to make up the numbers.

The competition may be unpredictable at the best of times, but it's what makes the league ever so exciting. We're in for another enthralling year, with the addition of some high-profile signings.

### Marquee signings living up to their name

The addition of the marquee system, external to the salary cap, has certainly been a work-in-progress since the A-League's inception.

The concept is brilliant for a marketplace like Australia, although it hasn't been utilised in the most productive manner in its early years. Since Dwight Yorke's appearance in version one, many of the marquee names haven't lived up to their names, or status. There has been the odd exception, ex-England international Robbie Fowler for instance.

When we backtrack a few years, the landscape has change remarkably. Gone are the days where clubs seek to sign over-the-hill players, well and truly past their prime. Former Brazilian star Romario at the tender age of 40 was nothing more than a poor public relations stunt, while a visibly uninterested Mario Jardel proved to be a disaster – leaving mid-season

during 2007-08. The A-League has evolved since those days, and importantly, it's continuing to do so in an impressive manner.

Only last season we witnessed the unprecedented arrivals of Socceroo luminaries Harry Kewell and Brett Emerton – at Melbourne Victory and Sydney FC respectively. Their signatures bolstered the competition's image, and illustrated that the A-League was heading in the right direction.

However, nothing prepared us for who would be arriving down under, come season eight – Italian legend Alessandro Del Piero and former English Premier League veteran Emile Heskey.

Both are magnificent coups, not only for the Sky Blues and Jets respectively, but for the A-League on the pitch and commercially. Del Piero, an idol back in his homeland, is not only making soundwaves around Australia, but all throughout the world. Honestly, who would have thought that the A-League would be televised live throughout Italy? Sometimes, we need to pinch ourselves at what is being unearthed. It further illustrates, a pipedream may just come into fruition, earlier than we may have anticipated.

Del Piero provides immense commercial and marketing opportunities for Sydney FC. Already, there are reports surfacing of the Sky Blues planning a post-season tour of Asia, along with a home-coming

fixture for their marquee-man against Italian powerhouse Juventus, in Torino.

While a marquee player's marketing abilities play an important role, their off-field attraction become insignificant if they don't perform on the pitch. In Del Piero's and Heskey's case, the entrée we've received so far is enticing, with further surprises to come.

In only three outings, both have hit the back of the net on two occasions, and looked ominous in the process.

Shinji Ono, Western Sydney Wanderers' inaugural international marquee, may not capture the same headlines as his higher profile colleagues, although his influence on the field is sure to play a pivotal role in the expansion club's first campaign. The club's growing contingent of supporters seem to have embraced the Japanese international with open arms. His English may be a little sketchy, but he has professed that his football will be doing all the talking – a mouth-watering prospect for any Wanderers fan.

The current marquee on offer may just be the catalysts for further big-name signings to play in our domestic competition. Don't be surprised if the A-League soon develops into a similar version to America's MLS.

Follow Robert on Twitter @ RobertDiFabio



Japanese World Cup star Shinji Ono is another quality player that A-League fans will be lucky to see in action this season. Photo: ALI ERHAN

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# SING OUT YOUR MELBOURNE HEART



Fred

David Williams

Matthew Thompson

Dylan Macallister

Aziz Behic

Patrick Gerhardt

Mate Dugandzic

UNDERNEATH THE CITY  
A LONG TIME AGO  
A SINGLE HEART WAS BEATING  
WITH NOWHERE TO CALL HOME  
TILL THERE CAME A SAVIOUR  
TO BRING IT TO THE LIGHT  
OUR HEARTS NOW BEAT TOGETHER  
UNDER THE RED AND THE WHITE  
TRUE, I DO, I DO I  
TRUE UNTIL I DIE  
OUR HEARTS WILL BEAT TOGETHER  
UNDER THE RED AND THE WHITE  
TRUE, I DO, I DO I  
TRUE UNTIL I DIE  
OUR HEARTS WILL BEAT TOGETHER  
UNDER THE RED AND THE WHITE  
FOREVER WE MAY WONDER  
FOREVER WE MAY ROAM  
WE'VE GOT NO NEED TO WORRY  
YOU'LL NEVER BE ALONE  
SO WHEN THEY HEAR US SINGING  
THEY'LL KNOW IT'S TIME TO FIGHT  
WE ALL WILL STAND UNITED  
UNDER THE RED AND THE WHITE  
TRUE, I DO, I DO I  
TRUE, UNTIL I DIE  
OUR HEARTS WILL BEAT TOGETHER  
UNDER THE RED AND THE WHITE  
TRUE, I DO, I DO I  
TRUE, UNTIL I DIE  
OUR HEARTS WILL BEAT TOGETHER  
UNDER THE RED AND THE WHITE  
TILL I DIE!



Boo's World

SUMMER SERIES



By Mark Boric

Is it time for an A-League re-branding already? Should Western Sydney Wanderers become Western Sydney Wonderers? Because everyone is wondering when will they score their first ever goal. Can't believe they haven't been given a dodgy penalty yet.

The VPL Grand Final rocket flare launcher is still at large. This week the news

services picked up on the story as police sought assistance to try and make a breakthrough. The much vaunted AAMI Park security cameras mustn't have helped them very much.

We've had Del Piero Cam, and Ono Cam, but when will Fox Sports give punters what they really want? Mel Cam. That's the one that will get the red buttons clicked.

So it seems the FFA are helping to pay part of the wages of some recent high profile marquee signings. For Emile Heskey this could soon shift from part of his wages to the full amount should Nathan Tinkler's cash flow issues continue to get worse.

Several players refused to wear t-shirts with anti-racism slogans pre-match in the English Premier League last weekend. You would normally assume then that they may be racist, but it was apparently a protest about how racism

issues have been dealt with lately. It's become a messy situation, and could do with someone like Anthony Mundine being appointed to sort it all out.

The Socceroos have a friendly line up next month against South Korea. On current form it could turn out to be a Gangnam-style rout. Hopefully Holger Osieck will use the game to experiment with the line-up, as the side features too many players who have switched their insurance policies from GIO and AAMI to APIA (Australian Pensioners Insurance Association).

Finally, David Carney and Harry Kewell still remain without clubs. Carney has been linked with Melbourne Victory in some rumours, whilst Kewell is considering selling all his football gear on eBay.



World Series Dance Off! Gangnam-style meets Melbourne Shuffle next month.

BOOTS 'N ALL



Roger Sleeman

REFEREEING STANDARDS As a referee with forty years' experience, I'm still shaking my head that Ben Williams could still be on the A-League panel after he made those controversial decisions last weekend during the Jets v Mariners clash.

Ruben Zadkovich's air bound ,two footed tackle early in the game would've been greeted with a red card at any level of the game but when he came from behind in the second half and kicked Mile Sterjovski , it was unexplainable he didn't receive a second yellow card.

As for the penalty awarded against Michael McGlinchey, it was quite apparent that Emile Heskey leaned back on the Mariner midfielder because there was no contact initiated by the latter. Furthermore, Les Murray's comment on the World Game that John Hutchinson was "a funny man" because he described the refereeing as brilliant was an accurate assessment of the Mariner captain's post match interview. Ben Wilson, the new referee's boss, is hopefully considering Ben William's short term appointment schedule because those crucial decisions had a major bearing on what was otherwise a great game when the Mariners produced one of the best performances of attacking football in the first half we have witnessed for many years in



Brett Holman is making his mark in the EPL with Aston Villa.

the A-League.

FOX SPORTS DEVIL IN THE DETAIL

Nobody ever suggested being a football commentator was an easy job but when opinions are expressed which would be questioned by the viewing audience, they should be held accountable.

In last weekend's Sydney derby, Andy Harper said that Kruno Lovrek, the Sydney FC midfielder, hadn't been noticed since the match against Wellington. Did Harper observe the fierce drive unleashed by Luvrek which brought a brilliant save by Ben Kennedy and another delicate touch from a free kick which was goal bound in the left hand corner before the intervention of a defender in the previous week's match against the Jets. If these goals had been scored, the Jets may have been on the ropes but critically Luvrek was one of Sydney's most mobile players on the day as he linked several times

with Del Piero to put pressure on the opposing rearguard. Also in the derby, Adam D'Apuzzo in the first half cut in- field on his right side to unleash a piledriver towards the right post, only to see Ivan Necevski, the Sydney FC custodian, push the ball magnificently over the bar. Harper commented that D'Apuzzo had used his weaker foot, overlooking the reality the Wanderers defender has shown great technique on both feet for a number of years. Before the broadcast of the Glory v Heart clash last Sunday, Jamie Harnwell said that Besart Berisha had scored with his wrong foot when he delicately chipped Mark Paston with his left foot. Seriously, Berisha is so talented he can score with any part of his body and many of his 26 goals in the 38 matches he has featured for the Roar were scored or fashioned on his left side. To finish the week off, Mark Bosnich stated the second half in the Wellington Roar match was an exciting encounter.



Ante Covic meets and greets new memeber of the Wanderers clan. Photo: ALI ERHAN

Bosnich must have been watching a different match to the viewers because even the NZ commentators described the second half as a stalemate. The burning questions remains as to whether the Fox sports producers were listening to these comments because if they didn't, maybe they should undertake a refresher in football education.

THE LEGEND OF PARRAMATTA POWER

What a tremendous fan base the Wanderers have established with that magnificent crowd against Sydney FC last weekend.

I remember clearly back at the start of the 1999/2000 inaugural NSL season for the Power when coach, Dave Mitchell, asked me whether the club would be a success and gain the support of the local community. I replied in the affirmative because there had never been an NSL club in the area and with the backing of the affluent Parramatta Leagues

Club and a strong playing roster, the future looked bright. However, even with players of the calibre of Jacob Burns, Mile Sterjovski, David Barrett, Ahmad Elrich, Joel Griffiths, Steve Laybutt, Alex Tobin and the mercurial Joe Miller in the second year, the club struggled to gain widespread support. What Tony Popovic would do to have these types of quality players in his squad if he could only turn the clock back. Hopefully, the fans will be patient and the Wanderers can start producing their own players to ignite the passions of these fanatical supporters.

HOLMAN THE GREAT REV-ELATION

There has been a lot of criticism about the individual standard of the Socceroos but one player who is going from strength to strength is Brett Holman.

His move from AZ Alkmaar to Aston Villa was perfectly timed.

By far our best player in the 2010 World Cup, Holman has been putting in impressive performances with Villa every week. I watched him closely last weekend when Villa played away to Fulham and his work rate was something phenomenal. For example, midway through the first half he received the ball outside the box and hit a powerful drive past the right post and as Fulham immediately launched a swift attack from the goalkick , he was instantly back in his own box defending goalside. If Holman repeats these consistent performances, the memory of Tim Cahill during his playing days in the EPL may yet become a fading one.

BERGER THE TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

It will be three years next month, since Han Berger commenced his role as FFA Technical Director and there are rumours he will be receiving an extension to his contract. Some people would suggest he has had enough time to make an impact on the game and why can't a local coach take over his position. In an interview with Simon Hill in July, Berger claimed that people didn't understand how to use the curriculum and he was going to write an advanced version developing the material from that first version. Why this wasn't done in the first version is hard to understand because in that document there was a lack of detail. If Berger can produce a difference with version 2, perhaps we can change the status quo where our youth teams are performing badly and we are failing to produce enough young players to replace the current senior players in our national squad and the A-League.

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# NYL season kicks off with opening fixtures

By Daniel Quinn

The 2012-13 National Youth League (NYL) season got under way with four victorious sides, the Melbourne Victory, Brisbane Roar, Central Coast Mariners and the Melbourne Heart, as the country's brightest talents showcased their skills.

Melbourne Victory kicked-off the 2012-13 NYL season with a 3-0 win over Adelaide United at SS Anderson Reserve on Saturday afternoon.

Victory opened the scoring just after 9 minutes as a Theo Markelis through-ball was deflected past Adelaide 'keeper John Hall by his own defender.

Attacking playmaker Jake Nakic was involved in plenty of Victory's moves including the second and third goals, firstly setting up Isaka Cernak who tucked away the second at the back post, before Nakic pounced on a defensive mistake and buried the third.

Meanwhile in Perth, Brisbane Roar came from behind to defeat Perth Glory 2-1 at Intiga Stadium on Saturday.

The game didn't start off too well for the Roar as James Donachie's inaccurate back pass avoided his 'keeper Nicholas Tubbs and found the bottom corner to gift the Glory the lead just on 10 minutes. Both sides missing many chances in hot conditions, before Geroge Lambadaridis' long range free-kick deflected off the wall as Glory 'keeper Devon Spence could only watch the ball fly into the corner.

Korean winger Do Dong-Hyun finished the comeback with seven minutes left with a composed finish after beating numerous defenders.

In Tuggerah the Central Coast



Nick Ansell (Victory) can't quite stop Jacob Melling (Adelaide) from releasing the ball. Dion Kirk is ready to go after it. Photo:JOHN PUNSHON

Mariners got their defence of their title under way with a 2-1 victory over local rivals Newcastle Jets on Sunday.

The Mariners got off to a great start with two goals inside the opening 23 minutes as Troy Hearfield found former Brisbane Roar youngster Tomislav Cirjak who easily beat Jack Duncan in goals for the Jets, before an Adam Kwasnik header doubled the lead. But early in the second-half Mitchell Oxborrow's dipping effort pulled one back meaning it was game on, with still the majority of the second-half to play.

And the Jets were given a golden chance to equalise as Hearfield pulled Kale Bradbery down in the box. Marko Jesic stepped up to the spot, but Mariners 'keeper

Justin Pasfield pulled off a great save, before denying Jesic on the follow up.

The Western Sydney Wanderers' life in the NYL didn't start off as planned as they suffered a 2-0 defeat at the hands of the Melbourne Heart at Cook Park on Sunday.

Both sides had early chances, but it was Heart who would capitalise as Evan Batsis volleyed past Wanderers' goalkeeper Jerrad Tyson just before the break.

With still thirty minutes left to play Heart Skipper Josh Groenewald finished off the hosts with a wonderful strike, after lifting the ball over a defender, the utility rifled an effort into the top corner to send new Heart Coach Joe Palatsides back to Melbourne with all three points.



Dion Kirk employs a rather unusual tackle on Leigh Broxham. Photo:JOHN PUNSHON

Round One Results

Melbourne Victory 3  
Adelaide United 0

Perth Glory 1  
Brisbane Roar 2

Mariners 2  
Newcastle Jets 1

West Sydney wanderers 0  
Melbourne Heart 2

NYL Standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	D	P
1 Melbourne Victory	1	1	0	0	3	0	3	3
2 Melbourne Heart	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	3
3 Brisbane Roar	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	3
4 CC Mariners	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	3
5 Sydney FC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 (AIS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7 Newcastle Jets	1	0	0	1	1	2	-1	0
8 Perth Glory	1	0	0	1	1	2	-1	0

Round Two Fixtures

Newcastle Jets FC Vs Western Sydney Wanderers  
Thurs 25 Oct KO 6:30pm  
Wanderers Oval

Melbourne Heart FC Vs Central Coast Mariners  
Sat 27 Oct KO 3:00pm  
John Cain Memorial Park

Adelaide United FC Vs AIS  
Sun 28 Oct KO 11:00am  
Burton Park

Sydney FC Vs Perth Glory  
Sun 28 Oct KO 2:15pm  
ANZ Stadium

Brisbane Roar FC Vs Melbourne Victory  
Sun 28 Oct KO 2:30pm  
Goodwin Park

# Lady Reds off to a winning start

By FFA

Adelaide United and Perth Glory are the surprise early pacesetters after the opening week of the 2012/13 Westfield W-League season.

Last year's bottom sides both claimed impressive home wins to sit atop the ladder.

Meanwhile, last year's top three – Canberra United, Brisbane Roar and Sydney FC – all had to make do with a draw to start their respective campaigns.

Perth holds an unlikely lead at the summit with their 2-0 win over Melbourne Victory putting the West Australians top on goal difference.

Boosted by the return of local heroines Kate Gill and Collette McCallum, the Glory impressed in oppressive heat in the west.

Gill opened the scoring in the second half, while Marianna Tabain rounded out the scoring late on.

A day earlier Adelaide completed a remarkable comeback from a two-goal deficit to win 4-3 over debutant club Western Sydney Wanderers.

New Zealand international striker Sarah McLaughlin was the star with a stunning hat-trick in the final ten minutes for the Lady Reds, who completed just the fourth win in the club's history.

Earlier, Server Uzunlar claimed a slice of history by



Adelaide Utd embrace goalscorer Rachael Quigley.



Sarah McLaughlin is on her way to an opening day hat-trick.



Western Sydney makes its debut in the W-League.

Round One Results

Canberra United 0  
Brisbane Roar 0

Adelaide United 4 (Racheal Quigley 34', Sarah McLaughlin 77'/80'/88')

Western Sydney Wanderers 3 (Servet Uzunlar 6'/21', Jenna Kingsley 55')

Perth Glory 2 (Kate Gill 75', Marianna Tabain 88')

Melbourne Victory 0

Sydney FC 3 (Alanna Kennedy 35', Sam Kerr 75', 77')

Newcastle Jets 3 (Emily van Egmond 17', Tara Andrews 21', Tori Huster 58')

W-League Standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	D	P
1 Perth Glory	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	3
2 Adelaide United	1	1	0	0	4	3	1	3
3 Newcastle Jets	1	0	1	0	3	3	0	1
4 Sydney FC	1	0	1	0	3	3	0	1
5 Brisbane Roar	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
6 Canberra United	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
7 WS Wanderers FC	1	0	0	1	3	4	-1	0
8 Melbourne Victory	1	0	0	1	0	2	-2	0

Round Two Fixtures

Sydney FC Vs WS Wanderers FC  
Sat 27 Oct KO 2:00pm  
Leichhardt Oval, Sydney

Newcastle Jets Vs Canberra United  
Sat 27 Oct KO 2:00pm  
Wanderers Oval

Perth Glory Vs Adelaide United  
Sat 27 Oct KO 3:00pm  
Intiga Stadium

Melbourne Victory Vs Brisbane Roar  
Sat 27 Oct KO 4:00pm  
Veneto Club, Bulleen



# Couch Potato

\* ALL TIMES ARE AEDT



**SBS**

**SBS ONE**  
Sunday October 28th  
10:30 am Football Asia - Provides the latest news and updates of the various football leagues across Asia.

11:00 am UEFA Champions League Magazine - Highlights and news from the latest round of the UEFA Champions League.

**Monday October 29th**  
11:00 pm The World Game

**SBS TWO**  
**Monday October 29th**  
9:30 pm The World Game

**one**

**Friday 26th Oct**  
02:30 am The Serie A Highlights Show  
03:00 am Arsenal TV  
08:00 am Bundesliga Weekly Highlights

**Saturday 27th Oct**  
05:30 am The Serie A Highlights Show

**Sunday 28th Oct**  
06:00 am Arsenal TV

**Monday 29th Oct**  
03:00 am Bundesliga Weekly Highlights  
12:30 pm The Serie A Highlights Show

**Tuesday 30th Oct**  
03:00 am Arsenal TV

**Thursday 2nd Nov**  
02:00 am Magic Of The FA Cup  
03:00 am Bundesliga  
05:00 am Bundesliga Weekly Highlights

**SETANTA SPORTS**

**SUNDAY 28TH OCTOBER**  
*Npower Championship* **Blackpool v Brighton** 12:55am **LIVE**  
*Npower Championship* **Bristol City v Hull** 3:15am **LIVE**  
*Bundesliga* **Schalke v Nuremburg** 9:15am 1st Airing  
*Bundesliga* **Freiburg v Dortmund** 1:15pm 1st Airing  
*Scottish Division 3* **Clyde v Rangers** 11:45pm **LIVE**

**MONDAY 29TH OCTOBER**  
*Eredivisie* Round 10 **Feyenoord v Ajax** 1:45am 1st Airing  
*Bundesliga* Round 9 **Bayern Munich v Leverkusen** 3:25am **LIVE**  
*Primera Division* Teams TBC 6:10am **LIVE**  
*Bundesliga* Round 9 **Stuttgart v Frankfurt** 8:15am 1st Airing  
*Primera Division* Teams TBC 10:10am **LIVE**  
*Eredivisie* **RKC v Twente** 12:15pm 1st Airing  
*Eredivisie* **PEC v PSV** 3:45pm 1st Airing  
*Bundesliga* Round 9 Highlights 7:00pm

**TUESDAY 30TH OCTOBER**  
*Npower Championship* Highlights 7:00pm  
*SPL* Highlights 7:30pm  
*Eredivisie* Highlights 8:00pm

**WEDNESDAY 31ST OCTOBER**  
*Capital One Cup* Round 4 **Reading v Arsenal** 6:40am **LIVE**  
*Copa Sudamericana* Quarter-Final 1st Leg Teams TBC 12:00pm **LIVE**

**THURSDAY 1ST NOVEMBER**  
*Capital One Cup* Round 4 **Chelsea v Man Utd** 6:40am **LIVE**  
*Capital One Cup* Round 4 **Norwich v Tottenham** 9:30am 1st Airing  
*Copa Sudamericana* Quarter-Final 1st Leg Teams TBC 12:00pm **LIVE**  
*Scottish League Cup* Quarter-Final **Dundee United v Hearts** 4:15pm 1st Airing

**FRIDAY 2ND NOVEMBER**  
*Copa Sudamericana* Quarter-Final 1st Leg -Nov Teams TBC 9:00am **LIVE**  
*Copa Sudamericana* Quarter-Final 1st Leg Teams TBC 12:00pm **LIVE**  
*Bundesliga* Round 10 Preview Show 1900 1st Airing

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# Round 04: ASK THE EXPERTS

THE VERDICT  
Jets (5) Victory (2) Draw (1) - AUFC (5) Phoenix (2) Draw (1) - Roar (7) Wanderers (0) Draw (1) - Heart (1) Mariners (3) Draw (5) - SFC (3) Glory (2) Draw (3)

<b>SANTO CILAURO</b> 07 Jets Adelaide Roar Draw Sydney Last week: 3	<b>CRAIG MACKENZIE</b> 05 Draw Adelaide Brisbane Draw Draw Last week: 2	<b>EDDIE KRNEVIC</b> 06 Draw Draw Roar Draw Draw Last week: 3	<b>PETER KATHOLOS</b> 03 Melb Victory Adelaide Draw Melb Heart Draw Last week: 1
<b>ROGER SLEEMAN</b> 06 Newcastle Adelaide Brisbane Mariners Perth Last week: 1	<b>ANDY HARPER</b> 03 Victory Adelaide Brisbane Draw Sydney FC Last week: 2	<b>JOHN DOYLE</b> 05 Jets Wellington Roar Mariners Perth Last week: 2	<b>KISS OF DEATH</b> 04 Jets Phoenix Roar Draw Sydney FC Last week: 1

## Mehmet Laughs Off ‘Physical’ Tag

By Gareth Morgan

Perth Glory striker **Billy Mehmet** has dismissed suggestions that his team is a physical side as they prepare to take on Italian superstar **Alessandro Del Piero** and his Sydney FC team-mates on Sunday.

According to Sydney media reports, the Sky Blues are expecting the visitors to crank up the rough stuff at ANZ Stadium, an assertion Mehmet was quick to refute.

“I don’t know where they got that from to be honest,” said the former West Ham trainee.

“If you look at the stats, I think you’ll find we’re actually around fifth in terms of fouls committed in the league.

“If we need to be physical, we will be, but we’re not a physical side. “We pass the ball around, that’s the main thing we do.”

And the statistics do indeed support Mehmet’s claim.

Ironically it is Sydney FC themselves who along with the Newcastle Jets currently lead the entire league in terms of fouls committed and Ian Crook’s side have also picked up nine yellow cards in their three games to date, an identical record to Glory’s.

Having defended his side’s reputation, the man with two goals to his name already this term swiftly switched his focus to Del Piero and the challenge of limiting the marquee man’s influence.

“We’ve spoken about it and obviously playing against Del Piero is going to be a good thing for a lot of the boys.

“He’s a great player.

“He can score goals and he can drop deep and create things, so we’ve just got to try and get in his face and stop him.

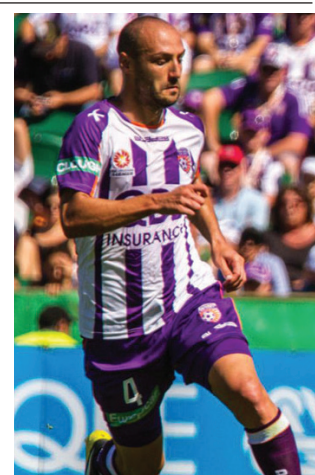
“That’s the only thing you can do. “But they’ve got other players who are dangerous as well, so it’s not just all about Del Piero, we’ve got to stop the whole team.”

Ian Ferguson’s men will certainly make the long trip east in confident mood having breezed past Melbourne Heart last time out and Mehmet has been pleased with both his own personal form and that of the team.

“With Shane (Smeltz) out I’ve come in and scored a couple of goals and I’m happy with the way things have been going,” he said.

“I just hope I can continue doing that, but the main thing is for us to continue playing the way we have been as a team and go out there on Sunday and pick up another three points.

“We’re passing the ball around well and creating a lot of chances. “I scuffed one just before I scored



Billy Mehmet. Pic: CRAIG ECCLES

against Heart on Sunday which I was disappointed with, but the main thing is we are creating chances and as a striker, if you’re getting chances, you’ll convert one of them eventually.”

## Berisha closes in on record

Brisbane Roar’s charismatic front-man, **Besart Berisha**, has the chance to equal the club’s **Hyundai A-League** goal-scoring record when his side takes on competition new boys **Western Sydney Wanderers** at Suncorp Stadium on Saturday.

The club’s current top scorer, Sergio van Dijk, has 25 goals to his name and Berisha – who also has two AFC Champions League goals to his name – could reach the same number of goals this weekend if he finds the back of the net against Tony Popovic’s team.

Van Dijk scored his milestone in 50 games for the Roar (between 2008 and 2010) while Saturday’s round four Hyundai A-League clash will mark the 33rd time the Albanian has pulled on the orange jersey, indicating a significant strike rate of 24 goals in 32 appearances.

“I’m happy of course but I’m more happy that I’m at this club and I can help achieve something to win titles, like we did last year,” Berisha said.

“All these goals I score, it’s what I enjoy in Brisbane and you can see that every game.

“It will mean a lot to have the record but it will mean more to achieve something in the club and try to win titles.



Record breaker: Besart Berisha has taken all before him since arriving in Australia, and the trend looks set to continue. Photo: ADRIAN GAGLIONE

“For me, it’s important that I work hard each game, each training session and help my team as much as I can.”

He’s been a popular figure around the Brisbane club since his first day in the country last August and it’s clear the respect is mutual – as always, Berisha was quick to credit his teammates for their part in his personal achievement.

“For me, it’s so important to enjoy the football and every day I enjoy training with the boys,” he said.

“I really enjoy the time with the staff as well, not just the coaching staff but everyone in the club - we all work so hard and work with heart and for me, this is so important.

“You can see how much effort I put in every game because if you see around football and see how hard our staff work hard for this club, it really is a pleasure for me to be here.”

Berisha won last season’s Hyundai A-League Golden Boot award with 19 goals

**Besart Berisha's Goal Chart**

Senior career\*

Years Team	Apps (Gls)
2003–2004 Borussia Berlin	4 (1)
2004–2007 Hamburger SV	11 (2)
2005 → AaB (loan)	3 (0)
2005–2006 → Horsens (loan)	32 (5)
2007–2009 Burnley	0 (0)
2008 → Rosenborg (loan)	8 (1)
2009 → Horsens (loan)	13 (2)
2010–2011 Arminia Bielefeld	22 (2)
2011– Brisbane Roar	36 (25)

National team

2007–Albania 17 (1)

in the regular season before two pivotal goals in last season’s Championship decider.

He bagged a brace in the Roar’s 5-0 win at Suncorp Stadium two weeks ago before scoring his 24th goal in Sunday’s draw with Wellington Phoenix in New Zealand.

Berisha and his Brisbane Roar team-mates take on Western Sydney Wanderers on Saturday, 27 October at Suncorp Stadium. Kick off is at 6.45pm. Tickets are available at Ticketek.

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ADRIAN DEANS



# Pala's kids dance to Heart beat



**JOE Palatsides is relishing the professional environment at Melbourne Heart and his responsibility to develop the club's pool of talented youngsters.**

He's delighted to be back in his home town after a journey that started in 1993 when he chose to pursue a dream overseas.

He'd already made it here at club level and is immortalised as the striker that scored the late goal that took the 1991 national league grand final into extra time and ended with a win on penalties for South Melbourne Hellas against Melbourne Croatia.

He'd also made one Soccerroo appearance, coming on as a sub in, dare we recall, a disastrous 1-0 loss to Fiji.

But that wasn't enough. Not by a long shot.

He had long harboured an ambition to play professionally in Europe and two successful trial games in Greece provided the platform that led to 18 years as a player and manager there.

The former Port Melbourne junior's playing CV includes spells with Brunswick Juventus, South Melbourne Hellas and Heidelberg Alexander in Australia's old national league and stints with PAOK, Apollon Kalamarias, Olympiakos Volos and Poseidon Neas Michanionias.

It was at Michanionias in 2000 that he made the switch to coaching, first as player-coach for a five-game run that included three wins.

Now he boasts head coaching stints at Kalamarias, Chalkidiki and Zakynthos among others and sees himself as a career coach.

"If you don't aim for the stars then you're not going to make a good coach. But I don't want to give the wrong impression because I'm absolutely committed to being part of the team at Heart and I don't have tunnel vision," said Palatsides.

"Every good coach is ambitious. You have to do what you do to the best of your ability and see where that takes you.

"In all the years I coached in Greece I never had a manager (agent) pushing me and promoting me to the clubs and I'm really proud of what I did there because I did it on my own.

"I got my club into the Greek Second Division and people might not realise that that's a pretty high standard and that you are dealing with some very good players."

When Palatsides talks football nowadays there's a single-mindedness about him that may well have been engendered by his experiences in Greece.

It's increasingly difficult to conjure

up an image of the fairly laid-back young guy that left these shores so long ago and became a successful pro footballer who could indulge in sipping frappes with friends in cafes on the port at Pagassitikos Kolpos.

No doubt witnessing elements of corruption that once haunted Greek football and a protracted dispute as a player with Kalamarias that required FIFA intervention have left their mark.

Palatsides and his wife Lena started thinking about moving to Australia last year with their then five-year-old son Dimitri as the Greek economy unravelled and in mid-February this year the family arrived in Melbourne with no job prospects on the horizon.

But word soon spread that he was back in town and looking for work.

He'd left Kalamarias in second spot in the league and with his impressive coaching background he wasn't idle for long.

Six weeks after his homecoming he took over as head coach of VPL outfit Moreland Zebras, the modern day equivalent of one of his former clubs, Brunswick Juventus.

"It was a bit of a culture shock to be honest. Suddenly we're training just twice a week and grounds weren't always available. I'd been a pro for 18 years and it was a difficult thing to adjust to."

During his time with the struggling Zebras he met John Didulica, Heart's football operations manager, who showed interest in what Palatsides had achieved as a coach.

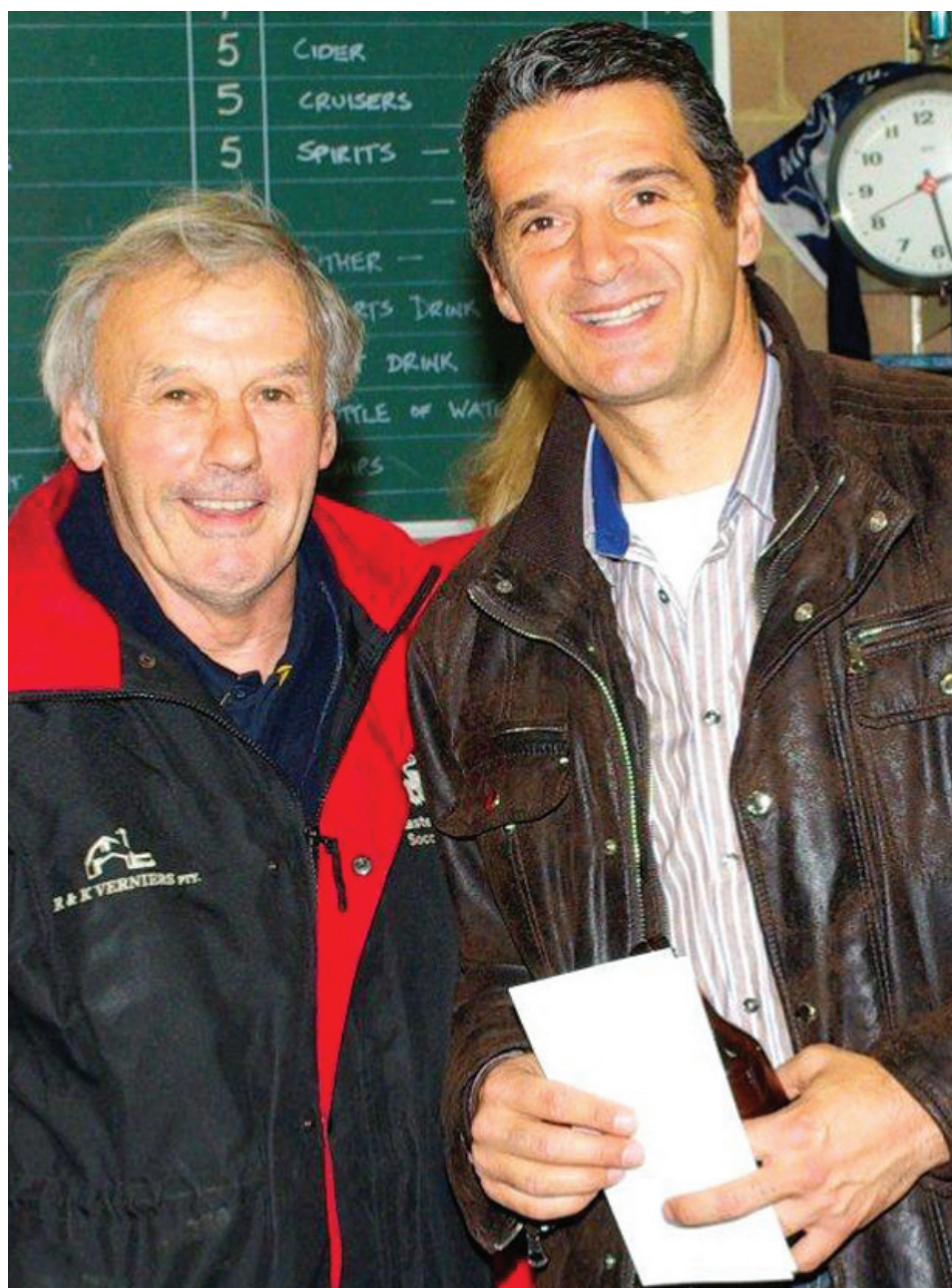
They slowly developed a relationship that played a pivotal role in Palatsides joining Heart in early August.

"It's always tough to get into professional football in Australia as opportunities are limited so I'm indebted to (head coach) John Aloisi and John Didulica for giving me this chance," said Palatsides.

His brief is to assist Aloisi and to coach Heart's youth team and when he joined the Melbourne franchise he found that the core of the youth squad already was in place, a legacy of Aloisi's job as youth coach the previous season. And Josh Groenewald had been appointed captain.

"We had seven players from last season and a couple of the trainees. We trialled lots and lots of kids but there were only five or six spots available to round off the squad.

"Josh is the most experienced player in the squad and has excellent attributes to be captain. He's a year older than the other boys and



Melbourne Heart assistant coach Joe Palatsides (right) and Soccerroo legend Jimmy Rooney.

he's been in the system and understands the club's culture.

"He's a no-nonsense type of player who gets the job done. He runs hard, he's got a good shot, he can tackle, he can pass. He's got a lot going for him but he knows that this is the year he has to step up and really impress."

Leading into last weekend's season opener Palatsides had only been able to work with his full squad for less than two weeks due to exam and VPL finals commitments.

He'd reasoned that travelling to Cook Park to take on Western Sydney Wanderers on Sunday afternoon in difficult conditions might take its toll on his side so his was a measured approach and as expected Western Sydney had most of the ball.

"We kept our structure and our composure and it's a tribute to the way we defended that the opposition only had one shot on goal."

Evan Batsis gave the Victorians a 1-0 lead with a volley late in the first half and captain Josh Groen-

wald completed the scoreline after linking well with Zac Walker and finishing in style in the 60th minute.

Western Sydney used six senior squad players while Heart relied solely on its youth squad. It was a triumphant start for Palatsides who sees his role as much more than developing his players' talents.

"Everyone wants to play attractive football and certainly Melbourne Heart is no different in that regard.

"But at the same time we want to win and while these youngsters have to be gracious losers we want to introduce them to a winning culture.

"My job is not just about technique and ability and improving their fitness levels it's about moulding a professional attitude, it's about developing their character within the culture of the club.

"Remember that some of these guys are going to be called on to step up throughout the season so they need to be prepared.

"What we do at Heart is unique

in the A-League as far as I can tell. We train together with the senior team on a regular basis and you can see what impact it has on those young players to train alongside guys like Fred, Gerhardt and Garcia.

**"There's no doubt whatsoever that you learn a lot from coaching courses but you can't beat real life experience and you have to use every opportunity to engage with top coaches and learn from them."**

"I can see how the tempo changes from the way they train with the youth squad to the way they train with the senior squad and there's no doubt that there is enormous benefit in this method for our

young players.

"I think it's a concept that John Aloisi put in place and I think it comes from AZ Alkmaar."

Palatsides too has picked up methods and ideas from various sources, principal among them current Greek national coach Fernando Santos.

"I used to go and watch PAOK train under Santos and it's amazing what you pick up when you sit down and talk to these people as well as watch them in action.

"To see how they structure their sessions and how they communicate with their players is invaluable.

"If you understand what they are doing you can tweak it to suit your own philosophy. That's how you stamp your own mark on their methods.

"There's no doubt whatsoever that you learn a lot from coaching courses but you can't beat real life experience and you have to use every opportunity to engage with top coaches and learn from them."

Palatsides holds a UEFA A Licence and may return to Europe next year in an attempt to gain a Pro Licence. If successful he would then be qualified to coach at national team level which may open up more doors for him down the track.

But he's not even vaguely interested in discussing that right now in fact he's more interested in the playing surface at John Cain Memorial Park where his youth side will play its home games this season.

"I hope it's better than it was in the last month of the VPL season."

His interest has been sparked by the dreadful condition of the pitch at Cook Park on Sunday and he's hoping for far better as the season unfolds.

"As soon as I saw it on Sunday I wasn't happy. Neither was the opposition coach (Trevor Morgan). To be honest it was horrible and the ball was bobbling up around the players' knees.

"I mean you prepare to play football in a specific way and then you get to the game and that preparation goes out the window because of the surface. It's very disappointing."

But he'll put that behind him and zero in on Saturday's home clash with Central Coast Mariners at 3pm.

It is expected to be a difficult assignment as the Mariners attempt to defend last season's title and won their opener last weekend 2-1 against Newcastle Jets.

"If we finish this season with clear improvement from the start, we've won games and players are developing then that will be a positive key performance indicator for me. But make no mistake about it we're certainly going to try and win the league.

"Winning the championship is not an easy thing to do at any level but it's what we all strive for."

And for Heart a national youth league title would be a first in more ways than one as no Victorian side has ever claimed that coveted crown.

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# The Original Australian Wanderers FC

## Blast From The Past



By Roy Hay

West Sydney Wanderers are the new kids on the block in A-League in 2012, but the name Wanderers has a long and proud history going back to the 1880s in Australia and the mid-nineteenth century in England.

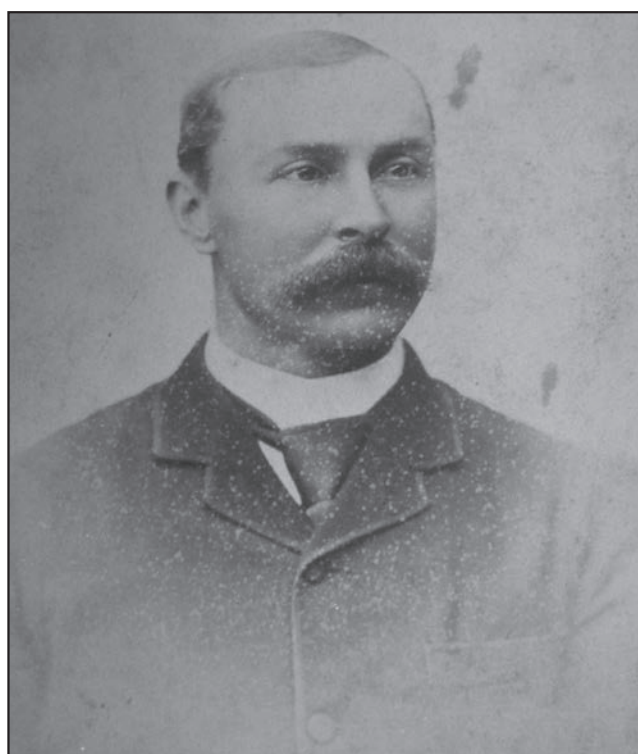
The English Wanderers began in 1859 as Forest Football Club formed by a group of ex-public schoolboys. In 1864 it changed its name to Wanderers and attracted some of the early stars of the game including Arthur, Lord Kinnaird, playing a series of friendly matches against other clubs and taking part in the FA Cup when it began in 1872. Wanderers won the first FA Cup competition and defended its title successfully the following year when challenged by Oxford University. In those days the Cup holder had a bye all the way to the final when it met the team which had won the right to challenge it by defeating the others in knock-out rounds.

In July 1880 a group of Sydney footballers responded to the suggestion of John Walter Fletcher that a club be formed to play under the rules of the Football Association. Fletcher's letter to the Sydney Morning Herald is fascinating. He wrote: 'There must be many old English and Scotch Association players, or old Eton and Harrow men, who would be glad to see their old game played here, and who would make an effort to introduce it; and I am quite sure that the principle of the game, which forbids the use of the hands, except by goalkeeper, and does away with scrummaging, collaring, &c, will commend itself to a very large section of this community.'

Fletcher was the headmaster of Coreen College and had played the game in England in his youth. Wanderers played its first match against King's School rugby team on the common in Parramatta. This was not the first game of football under FA Rules in Australia, but it deserves its place in the history of the game because it led to the setting up of an ongoing organisation in 1882 that was one of the first, along



Blue Mountains identities. J W Fletcher second from right in front row, with his son beside him. Original in Blue Mountains Historical Society. Copy from Philip Mosely.



John Walter Fletcher: 'Father of Australian soccer'. Original given to Blue Mountains Historical Society by J W Fletcher's daughter, Mrs Dorothy McLaurin in 1959. Copy from Philip Mosely.

with Natal in South Africa, to be formed outside the United Kingdom. Fletcher acted as secretary of the Wanderers and was a prime mover in the New South Wales English Football Association. Later he was dubbed, the 'Father of Australian Soccer'. In 1884 he organised the hosting of the Victorian team in Sydney as the return inter-colonial games were played that year. Two games had been played in Melbourne in 1883 between New South Wales and Victoria.

Fletcher had an interesting career outside the game, in-

cluding a key role in the introduction of lawn tennis in Australia, while his wife Anne Clarke embroidered the bag in which the 'Ashes' of English cricket were returned to London by Ivo Bligh and his team in 1883. Fletcher set up his own school eventually moving it to Katoomba in the Blue Mountains and later qualified as a lawyer and became a police magistrate. He died in 1918.

Fletcher's associates when the Wanderers were established included Arthur Henry Savage, born in Australia, but who played football for



Players heading the ball in 1887 in England. Note the tape rather than a crossbar. Source: unknown and copies have appeared in various publications.

England against Scotland in 1876 and was the linesman at the FA Cup final that year. Charles Edward Hewett, a founding member of the Australian Wanderers had played football for the English Wanderers in 1866. An Irish rugby enthusiast Maurice Barlow was also a member of the first committee of the Australian club. Other members included James A Todd, a bootmaker from Glasgow and W J Baker. The latter two represented a more working class element in the new organisation and the game quickly attracted new migrants from Scotland

and England.

In 1885 the Wanderers finished second on the Sydney Badge Series won by Caledonians. The other teams taking part that year included Pyrmont Rangers, Canterbury, Arcadians and the Young Men's Field Association. Wanderers played through the 1880s and there were around 60 clubs taking part in senior competition in New South Wales by the end of the century. By that time teams based on locality, the district system, had superseded those formed by specific interest clubs. Competition from rugby in New South Wales and

Australian (rules) football in Victoria was fierce but the new code had established itself as part of the sporting landscape thanks to a committed group of pioneers, whose first club formation is remembered in the name of Australia's newest club today.

*I am indebted to my good friend and fellow historian, Dr Philip Mosely, Vice-Master of Queen's College at the University of Melbourne for nearly all the information relating to John Walter Fletcher and the Wanderers and the photographs.*

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## **LIVE IT, PLAY IT, LOVE IT!**





## Planet Football

# Nth Korea



By Alvaro Rodriguez

**NAME:** North Korea  
**CAPITAL:** Pyongyang  
**POPULATION:** (2011 approx.) 24,554,000  
**CONFEDERATION:** AFC  
**INTERNATIONAL HONOURS:** AFC Challenge Cup winners 2010-12, bronze-medalists 2008; East Asian Cup bronze-medalists 2005; Nehru Cup winners 1993  
**FIFA WORLD RANKING:** 86th  
**ASIAN CUP APPEARANCES:** 1980, 1992, 2011, 2015 (recently qualified)  
**WORLD CUP APPEARANCES:** 1966, 2010

### WHO ARE YA?

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea occupies the northern half of the Korean Peninsula, bordering not only its southern neighbour (Korea Republic/South Korea) but also China and Russia. The end of Japan's 30+ year-rule over Korea at the end of WWII ushered in the division of the country at the 38th Parallel, with the Western Allies administering the southern portion and the Soviets in charge of the northern sector. Just like what happened with Germany between the Allies in this postwar era, the two halves of the nation became adherent to the political systems of their respective occupiers - the North becoming a totalitarian Marxist/Leninist state and the South a capitalist democracy (although corrupt and shoddy at this time).

Both Korean halves gained sovereignty at the end of the '40s but conflict was inevitable given both sides' vehement belief in reunification of the peninsula under one political system. Thus the two soon went to war in 1950, militarily-backed by their respective ideological masters.

The civil war ended in 1953, with the border moved back to virtually where it had been before. The North's leader Kim Il-Sung steadfastly steered the country towards heavy industrialization and merciless indoctrination of the populace, becoming by far the



most secretive of all the world's socialist dictatorships. The internationalist doctrine of Communism was modified by Kim to a more Korean-nationalistic bent known as Juche, to which it has become increasingly adherent to in the wake of the Cold War's end and the resulting demise of virtually all its global allies.

This was compounded by Kim's death in 1994, with his eccentric son Kim Jong-Il assuming power (although the constitution actually decrees Kim Il-Sung the country's 'Eternal President'). Kim Jong-Il occupied his office with certain distinction, albeit becoming a figure of fun in the West thanks largely to his portrayal in Team America: World Police and revelations of his playboy past and Westernised lifestyle; which looks certain to continue with his son (and now-successor upon his death) Kim Jong-Un, apparently a mad Michael Jordan and Jean-Claude Van Damme fan. Nothing wrong with that of course!, just the fact he lives it up while the overwhelming majority of his countrymen endure a

Third World lifestyle, and the small matter of the country technically still being at war with the South due to the two never having signed a formal Armistice...

### SO WHAT YOU DONE?

Football was already a popular sport throughout Korea before the country's partition, which did nothing to halt the game's growth therein. However whereas the South did not go professional for some thirty years, due to being a socialist state the North adopted the 'play for the State' policy endorsed by Communist regimes worldwide, where athletes were extensively groomed to be elite professionals without actually being paid for their trouble.

It was this that enabled such

countries to field their full-strength senior NTs in the Olympic football tournament, which was then still the exclusive domain of amateur players.

Even so the North Koreans did not enter the World Cup qualifiers until England '66, where due to their participation virtually all remaining Asian and African countries boycotted the qualifiers... save fellow WC-qualifying debutants Australia (yes, it was our first-ever stab at WC qualifying, only two years after our readmission to FIFA).

The Socceroos, then boasting future domestic-coaching-doyen Les Scheinflug and unused sub Johnny Warren, were heavily outclassed over both legs and the North Koreans reached the finals at their first attempt, however the possibility of their qualification being revoked by FIFA for political reasons remained real for some time.

Drawn with ideological masters the Soviet Union plus Chile and Italy in Group 4, the North Koreans were written off by all and sundry; backed up by their opening 3-0 loss to the Soviets.

However, they scored an 88th-minute equaliser against Chile to salvage a point and some credibility, but no-one could have seriously predicted what would happen next.

Faced by world heavyweights Italy (boasting a portion of that era's legendary Inter Milan side coached by Heleno Herrera), the North Koreans dug deep against the Azzurri and were rewarded for their endeavour with a goal to Pak Doo-Ik in the 42nd minute.

And to the disbelief of the football world at large...that score remained at the final whistle. The undisputed underdogs were through to the next stage and a clash with the highly-fancied Portuguese, led by the Mozambican-born Benfica icon Eusebio.

the 2010 WC team line up for a pre-match photo



Just in case the GPS ain't working...



The North Koreans celebrate Pak Doo-Ik's winner vs. Italy at the 1966 World Cup.

What transpired was one of the greatest matches in World Cup history - Pak Seung-Zin scored in the very first minute, with Lee Dong-Woon and Yang Seung-Kook following suit to have North Korea 3-0 up by the 25-minute mark. But Eusebio showed his timeless class by replying with 2 goals and 2 penalties, with José Augusto de Almeida scoring a goal of his own in the 80th minute to end the North Koreans' fairytale run.

The team nonetheless returned as heroes to the jubilant populace, fading into obscurity for years before being tracked down for a documentary in the lead-up to Germany '06, the 40th anniversary of their WC debut.

Sadly the North Korean football hierarchy squandered or neglected whatever chance there was of building upon the '66 team's achievement, with the emerging South soon overtaking them in international pedigree.

Eventually the North's football had sunk so low they simply boycotted WC qualifying, and had only 2 Asian Cup appearances

pre-2011 to their name.

Hence why their qualification for South Africa 2010, edging out traditional Asian powerhouses Saudi Arabia and Iran in the process was indeed a shock - returning to the biggest stage of all 44 years after their English sojourn, their team largely still a mystery to the world as it had been in '66, despite now boasting a contingent of foreign-based pros such as Jong Tae-Se and An Yong-Hak, being drawn with Ivory Coast, Brazil and rematched against Portugal presented a tall order - the North Koreans lost all 3 games, conceding 12 and scoring just once.

The country won the AFC Challenge Cup the same year to qualify for their first Asian Cup since 1992; at the 2011 finals in Qatar they showed promise in their opening nil-all stalemate with the UAE before losing 1-0 to both Iran and Iraq to bow out again, although they could take pride in the fact they had consecutively qualified for continental/world tournaments for the first time ever.

### BIG CLUBS

The domestic scene is arguably the most secretive aspect of North Korean football, and the Cold War-era 'state sham-ateurism' of its clubs is principally what bars them from competing in continental competition (although they would only be eligible for the third-tier AFC President's Cup, ranked below the Champions League and AFC Cup).

The national league is known as the DPR-Korea League, and its biggest clubs are the army-backed April 25 and Pyongyang City; theirs is the country's Clásico derby.

Other known clubs are Amrokgang and Rimyongsu, the latter of which supplied 9 players to North Korea's 2005 Under-17 WC and 2007 World Youth Cup squads.

### REP YOUR COLORS

Nicknamed 'The Chollima' - a Pegasus-esque winged horse of traditional Korean myth; it is also the mascot of K-League side Seongnam - the North Korean NT wears an all-red with white-trimmed kit, with the inverted as the away strip. April 25 and Pyongyang City are known to wear home kits in the style of the NT, whilst Amrokgang wear a lime-green number.

### MATCHWINNERS

Pak Doo-Ik, the hero of England '66 was already a corporal in the Korean People's Army, but was promoted to a sergeant after the WC and later became a gymnastics instructor, despite an urban legend amongst the defeated Italians that he was a dentist!

Of the South Africa 2010/current crop, it is worth noting that all of the country's foreign-based professionals such as FC Köln's Jong Tae-Se and Kashiwa Reysol's An Yong-Hak are of the Japanese-born 'Chongryon' expat demographic and as such are the only North Korean citizens permitted to play professionally abroad; all native-born North Korean players are forbidden to do so.

### SO WHAT NOW?

The Chollima have already been eliminated from Brazil 2014 qualifying by virtue of failing to reach the final stage of AFC qualifiers, although this has been offset somewhat by their berth at the 2015 Asian Cup held here in Oz, secured by virtue of winning this year's AFC Challenge Cup. Despite the renaissance of North Korean football in recent years, it remains unlikely that the current crop of Chollima will be emulating the feats of their 1960s forebears any time soon.

## The Season That Was

# Tasmania



By Walter Pless

South Hobart won their fifth Forestry Tasmania Southern Premier League title in a row after a nail-biting finish to the league season.

It all came down to the final day, making it the closest and most tense of finishes in years. New Town Eagles were top of the table on goal-difference from South Hobart and needed just a win to secure the title and break South Hobart's stranglehold on the honours.

Both sides were away from home. Eagles faced fourth-placed Kingborough Lions United, while South Hobart were away to fifth-placed Olympia Warriors.

Eagles led the Lions 2-1 at one stage before going down 3-2, while South scored two late goals to down Olympia

2-1 and secure the title.

South had lost more than half their team of the previous season, so the retention of their title was a huge achievement and a credit to the coaching of Ken Morton.

They had won all five trophies on offer the previous season, but this time they collected three of the five available. They retained the Steve Hudson Cup, the Southern League title, and the State Championship (with a 2-1 win over Forestry Tasmania Northern Premier League winners Northern Rangers). But, they failed to retain the Southern Summer Cup and the Milan Lakoseljac Memorial Trophy.

Kingborough Lions United won the Southern Summer Cup, overcoming the highly fancied Tilford Zebras 2-0. It was the Lions' first piece of silverware since the 1980s.

Glenorchy Knights had won the Milan Lakoseljac Memorial Trophy, beating New Town Eagles 3-2 in an exciting final. The trophy is named after one of their great strikers of the past.

University finished bottom of the Southern Premier League. Their season was notable because they failed to win a single match in the 21 rounds, although they did manage four draws.

Northern Rangers won the Forestry Tasmania Northern Premier League



The victorious Glenorchy Knights with the Milan Lakoseljac Memorial Trophy. Photo: WALTER PLESS

title by a point from second-placed Ulverstone, but they lost the State championship to South Hobart, as mentioned above. South led 2-0 before Rangers pulled back a goal to make for a nail-biting stoppage time.

Southern League One was won by Derwent United, made up largely of South Korean imports. It was Derwent's first season in the second-tier competition. They wrapped up the title

with three rounds remaining and then promptly lost their last three games as most of their Koreans returned home.

Their title win meant little, ultimately, as there was no promotion. Next year will be the inaugural Victory League season, comprising eight clubs.

It will be a State-wide league comprising five southern clubs and three from the north. A-League club Melbourne Victory are the naming rights sponsor

of the new competition, which costs the eight clubs \$10,000 each a year to enter. There will be no promotion or relegation for the next three years.

The clubs participating will be South Hobart, Glenorchy Knights, Kingborough Lions United, Olympia Warriors and Tilford Zebras from the south, and Northern Rangers, Launceston City and Devonport City from the north. The Tasmanian State team were in

action in August for the first time in a couple of years. They lost 4-0 to Melbourne Victory before 4,000 fans at KGV Park, a record attendance for the venue.

Three days later, Melbourne Victory beat Adelaide United 4-2 in a pre-season friendly at Launceston's Aurora Stadium.

The highest individual honours went to South Hobart and Tasmania midfielder Shae Hickey, who won the Vic Tuting Medal as the best-and-fairest player in Southern Tasmania.

Todd Hingston won the northern equivalent, the George Dale Medal. In the women's game, Launceston City won the northern and State titles, while Olympia Warriors won the southern title and the State-wide Cup.

Bliss Cantrell, the Olympia Warriors striker, scored 65 goals during the season.

Kim Barker was the south's top referee for a record 13th straight season.

The omission of New Town Eagles and Clarence United from next season's Victory League came as a huge shock to the two clubs' supporters as they had finished second and third, respectively, in the Southern Premier League. Football Federation Tasmania justified the clubs' exclusion by stating that on-field performance was not a criterion for selection.





# Latin Wrap

By Francis Fields

After 17 months, River Plate and Boca Juniors will once again meet in the regular Argentine first division.

Although Boca beat River in two friendlies in January earlier in the year during last season’s summer recess, both sides are coming into the high-profile match in poor form.

For decades the press has labelled the match, the “Superclásico”, one for which denotes the importance of being the derby amongst the derbies. The tribal rivalries between the two are very well-known across the globe but this time it is extra special.

Since River Plate have returned back to top status after a season in the Primera B Nacional they have not had a success campaign. Last weekend’s 1-0 loss to Quilmes has put increased pressure on boss Matías Almeyda.

“We are going into the ‘clásico’ with everything. It is a wonderful match to play at any stage of your career. I am already excited and I’m the coach. Having played them I say it is an old feeling but a new one as well. Football has revenges so it will be very special”, admitted the coach on Monday’s press conference.

Boca Juniors on the other hand are fresh from a scoreless draw to Estudiantes de La Plata at their home stadium La Bombonera.

Julio César Falcioni’s men maintains in fifth position in the standings with 18 points, five behind leaders Newell’s Old Boys.

Forward Lucas Viatri said, “We need to leave our lives on the pitch in the ‘clásico’, it is the patch the club and all the fans are awaiting. This is why people come to the stadium, this is why they sing and get behind us to win at all cost. We must take all three points”.

Quilmes fans added some poultry last Sunday when they dressed up a few chickens in River Plate colors and dropped them on the pitch during their side’s 1-0 win.

“Gallinas” (hen or chicken) has been a pejorative nickname for River Plate since they squandered a two goal lead in the second leg of the 1966 Copa Libertadores final against Uruguay’s Peñarol. And 46 years later that nickname is still as alive and very well part of the incessant and contagious football folklore.

Meanwhile last weekend Boca Juniors had a cat on the pitch during

## SHORT PASSES

### Robert Dolevski returns to Preston

The 28 year old 2002 VPL Championship player Robert Dolevski will return back home to Preston in season 2013 to finish off his last couple of years in the game at the club where he started as a junior back in 1994.

Having left Preston at the start of 2009, Robert Dolevski scored an impressive 35 goals in 59 Division 1 games over the past 4 years for both Fawknr Blues and Whittlesea Ranges. He had an injury interrupted season in 2012 at the Ranges managing just 4 goals in 10 games, but Preston will be hoping he can return to the form he was in at Fawknr where he was captain of the club and a stand out player in Division 1. Dolevski will add much needed fire power, experience and passion to the squad in 2013 and we wish him all the best in his return to BT Connor Reserve.

# Argentina prepares for the return of the Superclásico



Carlos Muñoz in jubilation for Colo Colo in their one-goal win over arch enemy Universidad de Chile.

their match against Estudiantes de La Plata. Newell’s Old Boys stayed top of the Inicial championship table with 23 points from 11 matches after a 0-0 draw at second-placed Racing Club on a low scoring weekend of action, which featured just 12 goals in 10 games. It is four matches without a victory for Boca.

The last derby in the first division was played in the Clausura 2011 at La Bombonera with a 2-0 win for Boca courtesy of an own-goal from River Plate goalkeeper Ángel Carrizo and retired great Martín Palermo with a header. The last clásico at the Monumental was played in the Apertura 2010 with River taking the bragging rights with a solitary goal by defender Jonathan Maidana.

This upcoming version will be played early Monday morning local Eastern Standard time.

### Santiago’s own clásico

**Colo Colo defeated Universidad de Chile in Santiago’s Estadio Monumental on Sunday thanks to leading Carlos Muñoz’s spectacular strike ten minutes from time.**

The heated Chilean “Superclásico” between the two fierce rivals saw both teams reduced to ten men, and required Muñoz’s moment of magic to break the deadlock.

After Muñoz’s winner, the game ended on a sour note with some angry exchanges between play-

ers after the final whistle resulting in a red card for both goalkeepers Johnny Herrera and Francisco Prieto with the latter’s obscene gestures towards the traveling fans saw him sent off.

Colo Colo coach Omar Labruna offered unqualified praise for his team after the match.

“We were the fair winners because we had more chances on goal,” said coach Labruna. “La U played well but we had more opportunities.”

La U coach Jorge Sampaoli had a different view of the match and criticized the performance of the referee.

“La U played a great game and was superior to Colo Colo in all aspects of the match, even with one man less,” said Sampaoli.

Universidad de Chile, playing three defenders at the back, looked to flood the midfield and dominate possession in the early stages. “La U” started the game more positively than the home team and created the clearest of the opening chances as defender Osvaldo González rose highest to head a looping freekick against the crossbar.

Despite the away team’s positive start, its competitive pressing game soon got the team into trouble after midfielder Eugenio Mena received his second yellow card in quick succession and found himself expelled from the game only 33 minutes in.

Colo Colo began to make its numerical advantage count and created a number of chances as the first

half came to a close. Carlos Muñoz had the best of them, rattling the right post with a close range strike before heading Rodrigo Millar’s cross narrowly wide.

Colo Colo started the second half brightly, passing the ball around the midfield and forcing “La U” to chase shadows. The home side continued to control possession in the midfield but was left frustrated by very disciplined defending by the visitors. On the rare occasions the home team breached “La U” defence, Herrera appeared to be in inspired form as he palmed away Mauro Olivi’s sweetly struck left-footed shot.

It was clear that something special would be required to break the deadlock, and Carlos Muñoz stepped up once again to provide that much-needed spark. La U’s desperate search for an equalizer left them increasingly exposed at the back, and the heated game inevitably produced another red card, this time for Colo Colo’s goal-scoring hero Muñoz.

Colo Colo moved up to third place in the Clausura with 27 points, while Universidad de Chile fell to sixth place with 26 points.

### Atlético Mineiro close the gap at the top in Brazil

**Atlético Mineiro were the better team in its top-of-the-table clash against Fluminense last weekend.** Throughout the match, Atlético Mineiro have caught up



Buenos Aires returns to a standstill with its two most bitter rivals, the Cain and Abel animosity between Boca Juniors and River Plate.

to the league leaders and needed a headed goal by central defender Leonardo Silva from Ronaldinho’s cross three minutes into added time to secure the three points.

Fluminense had their lead cut to six points with six matches remaining as they chase a second Brazilian title in three seasons.

“We cut the points difference and now we can believe more in (winning) this title,” former FIFA world player of the year Ronaldinho said. “We came to this match against direct (title) rivals with a certain margin and could afford to lose a bit of it today,” Fluminense’s goalkeeper Diego Cavalieri said.

All the goals came in the second half with former Everton and Manchester City forward Jo scoring twice for the home side. The teams were level at half-time only because Cavalieri made a string of saves to keep Fluminense in the game and two shots hit the posts.

Atlético also had a goal controversially disallowed when Ronaldinho, looking for his first Brazilian championship, put a free-kick in the net but the referee ruled against the home side for pushing by Leonardo Silva in the wall.

Fluminense, who would have taken a huge step towards the title with a victory that would have put them 12 points clear, went ahead 10 minutes into the second half through winger Wellington Nem.

Ronaldinho laid on the equaliser in the 69th minute for Jo, who shot

high into the net, and the striker headed Atlético Mineiro in front 13 minutes later from young midfielder Bernard’s cross.

Fluminense captain Fred equalised four minutes from time but Leonardo’s winner from Ronaldinho’s perfect cross dashed his team’s hopes of keeping their nine-point lead.

At the bottom end of the standings, record eight-times champions Palmeiras beat Cruzeiro 2-0 at home with a brace from Argentina forward Hernán Barcos but remain in the relegation zone.

### The stunning “Olimpico”

**In Uruguay, the famous “Olimpico” was scored on the weekend by none other than Álvaro Recoba for Nacional.**

The coined-term is for a goal scored directly off a corner kick as last weekend the veteran midfielder scored against Montevideo club side Liverpool.

It was a true gem of a goal from Recoba, 36 also scored off a corner kick a month ago against Fenix. Nacional won 3-1 after seven rounds and 7 points behind league leaders Defensor Sporting with a game in hand.

### Qantas Futsalroos defeat Thailand in pre-tournament friendly

**Qantas Futsalroos have defeated Thailand 5-4 in a friendly match in Bangkok as part of their final preparations for the FIFA Futsal World Cup Thailand 2012 which begins later this week.**

The Qantas Futsalroos will play another friendly against Egypt to fine tune for opening match of the tournament.

The Qantas Futsalroos have been drawn in Group D of the FIFA Futsal World Cup Thailand 2012 and will play their opening match against Italy on Friday 2 November (kick-off 5:00pm local, 9:00pm AEDT ) followed by Mexico Monday 5 November (kick-off 5:00pm local, 9:00pm AEDT and Italy in their final group match on Thursday 8 November (kick-off 5:00pm local, 9:00pm AEDT).

All Qantas Futsalroos matches at the FIFA Futsal World Cup 2012 will be broadcast live on SBS Two (see www.sbs.com.au for broadcast details).



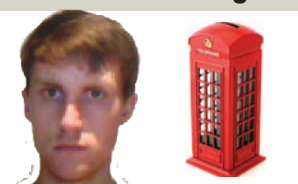
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## London Calling



By Samuel Collins

“Wait until Christmas” was Roberto Di Matteo’s response to questions about whether or not Chelsea are the Premier league favourites. But it’s undeniable, the Stamford Bridge outfit are the best team in England right now. The Blues have seen off Arsenal and Tottenham, both in their own back yard, and sit top of the division, four points clear of the two Manchester clubs. And this Sunday, they host Manchester United in the clash of the weekend.

How Sir Alex Ferguson’s side cope with the outstanding midfield trio of Eden Hazard, Juan Mata and Oscar could well decide the game. Mata has stepped up a couple of levels after an impressive debut season, and is arguably the league’s in-form player just now, whilst in £57m pair Hazard and Oscar, Chelsea own two of Europe’s most exciting playmakers. All three are currently causing havoc for the league’s defences. If Mata doesn’t find the back of your net, Hazard will. If Hazard doesn’t cut your defence in half with an effortless through-ball (as he did brilliantly against Spurs), Oscar will. If Oscar doesn’t dribble past three players...you get the picture. While Fernando Torres remains discordant at times, his movement and link-up play has evidently improved since the departure of Didier Drogba in the summer. But 11 goals in 54 league games since joining from

## Chelsea emerge as major title contenders

With a new two-year deal stitched up Roberto Di Matteo can now get down to business.

Liverpool mean one can’t be surprised to hear of Chelsea’s intention to bring Atletico Madrid striker Radamel Falcao to West London. The Colombian has long been coveted by Roman Abramovich, and it’s easy to see why. The 26-year old has hit 12 goals in 9 games this season for Atletico, 33 goals in 41 league appearances since joining from Porto for £40m. He has finished top scorer in the Europa League two years running, and has found the back of the net 183 times in his career to date. Intriguingly, Atletico president Enrique Cerezo has admitted that should any club reach Falcao’s buy-out clause (£48m), the man widely dubbed as the world’s best centre-forward right now, can depart the Vicente Calderon. If Chelsea can add Falcao to their XI in January, the chances of them retaining their European cup would probably double. Falcao is that good.

The ‘defend deep then counter’ approach from Chelsea in last season’s Champions League is well and truly gone. There is no more target man (for the time being, at least) to resort to, should things go wrong. Di Matteo has stood firmly behind the new “Chelselona” – thank Alan Shearer – system, and it shows no signs of letting up. And despite worries about their defence, Chelsea currently hold the league’s joint-meaneast defence – along with Arsenal, conceding 6 – and the win at White Hart Lane on Saturday afternoon came without captain and centre-back John Terry. It also came without Frank Lampard, who has now sat amongst the substitutes in 4 of Chelsea’s 8 league games this season. It wasn’t that long ago, a Chelsea side without Terry, Lampard and Drogba would have filled the 42,000 watching in SW6 with fear, but not anymore.

“Robbie knows the team very well,” Mata told reporters on the weekend, “He is a legend here and for us, he’s the perfect manager.” The Champions League and FA Cup successes of last season saw Di Matteo land the Chelsea job on a full-time basis, after originally replacing Andre Villas-Boas as caretaker boss in March. The Portuguese, now in charge of Spurs, failed to gain the support of his players during his short stay at Stamford Bridge. Tactical deficiencies - such as that disastrous high-line - and full-outs with several key men meant it was never likely to work out. 12 months ago, Chelsea lost 1-0 at Queens Park Rangers in the Premier League. Only five of the eleven that started that West London derby began the game against Tottenham on Saturday. Mass changes, for the better, have seen Chelsea develop into the country’s best side.

Bigger tests lie ahead, starting with that fixture against Manchester United. The two sides meet again next week too, in the league cup, trips to Italian champions Juventus and in-form West Brom lurk around the corner, as does a home meeting with Manchester City. And it’s not entirely perfect for the Blues. The racism saga surrounding John Terry still casts a spell over the club, and despite everything, Di Matteo’s long-term future isn’t assured. Should Pep Guardiola, winner of 14 trophies in 4 magical years the Nou Camp, decide to end his sabbatical next year, Abramovich will do anything to bring the Spaniard to West London. There are also concerns regarding the strength in depth in the striker role, should Torres suffer injury. But for now, a ticket at the Bridge is the hottest in town.

Worryingly for Chelsea’s rivals, Mata says “I think the best is still to come.”

to overcome Cibalia 2:1. Slaven now takes on Istra in Round 13. Dinamo Zagreb is on the road to Cibalia and is expected to add to their points tally.

**Turkey**  
**Galatasaray and Antalyaspor share top spot in the Turkish League following eight rounds with fifteen points. Genclerbirligi and Galatasaray played out a thrilling 3:3 draw in Round eight.**

Azofiet gave the home side the lead after 26 minutes but two quick fire second half strikes from Umut Bulut and Elmander put Gala in front. Ayut Demir equalised in the 66th minute and only seconds later it was 3:2 for the home side when Durmaz netted. With less than five minutes remaining, Gala found a late equaliser to share the spoils when Hakan Bulta found the back of the net in this six goal thriller. Fenerbahce came off a 3:0 win over rivals Besiktas with a 1:1 draw away to Bursaspor and now share fourth spot with five clubs on thirteen points. Red Star legend Robert Prosinecki is the new manager of Kayserispor, in his first match in charge though the struggling side lost to Istanbul 1:0. Kayserispor is currently in 15th position with only seven points from the first eight rounds. In Round 9, Galatasaray welcomes Prosinecki and Kayserispor to Istanbul, Trabzonspor takes on Bursaspor, Antalyaspor welcomes Fenerbahce in the derby match of the round.

## UEFA Champions League - Match Day 3

**GROUP A**  
**Porto produced a 3-2 victory over Dynamo Kiev to maintain their perfect record in Champions League Group A, as Paris Saint-Germain also won.** Elsewhere in Group A, PSG secured a comfortable 2-0 win away to Dinamo Zagreb, thanks to goals from Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Jeremy Menez. Porto top the group on nine points from three matches played, three points ahead of second-placed PSG. Dynamo Kiev are third on three points, with Dinamo Zagreb bottom and yet to avoid defeat.

**GROUP B**  
**Schalke have become the first foreign side in nine years to win a Champions League match at Arsenal thanks to a 2-0 victory..** Late goals from Klaas-Jan Huntelaar and Ibrahim Afellay settled a game the German visitors dominated throughout, tearing Arsenal’s insipid defence to pieces at the Emirates Stadium. In the other match in that group, Olympiacos came from behind to defeat Montpellier 2-1 in France. After a goalless first half, Gaetan Charbonnier put Montpellier in front in the 49th minute but it was the visitors from Greece who took the three points thanks to goals from Vassilis Torosidis and Kostas Mitroglou, with the latter coming in the first minute of second-half stoppage time.

**GROUP C**  
**Malaga’s perfect start to their first Champions League campaign has continued with a 1-0 win over AC Milan thanks to a goal from Joaquin.** In the other Group C clash, Zenit St Petersburg defeated Anderlecht 1-0 thanks to a penalty from Aleksandr Kerzhakov.

**GROUP D**  
**Manchester City’s Champions League hopes suffered a huge blow with a 3-1 loss to Ajax on Wednesday, as Borussia Dortmund beat Real Madrid.** Also on Wednesday, Borussia Dortmund earned a valuable 2-1 win at home to Real Madrid, courtesy of goals from Robert Lewandowski and Marcel Schmelzer, either side of Cristiano Ronaldo’s equaliser. The results leave Dortmund top of Group D on seven points, one point ahead of second-placed Real. Ajax move onto three points in third spot, leaving City bottom with just one point to their name.

**GROUP E**  
**Shakhtar Donetsk extended their unbeaten run at home with a 2-1 victory over European champions Chelsea in the Champions League on Tuesday.** Goals from Brazilian duo Alex Teixeira and Fernandinho sealed the result for Shakhtar, who have not lost at the Donbass Arena since November last year. Danish champions Nordsjaelland claimed their first ever Champions League point with a 1-1 draw at home to Juventus. Shakhtar are on top of the group with seven points, followed by Chelsea on four and Juventus on three after three matches played.

**GROUP F**  
**Group F of the Champions League remains wide open after Valencia won 3-0 at BATE Borisov and Bayern Munich edged Lille 1-0 on Tuesday.** Valencia and BATE have both collected six points from three games played, and share top spot with Bayern Munich following their 1-0 win away to Lille. A penalty from Thomas Mueller in the 20th minute at the Grand Stade Lille Metropole secured maximum points for the Bundesliga team, leaving Lille bottom and without a point.

**GROUP G**  
**Jordi Alba’s injury-time winner saw Barcelona snatch a 2-1 win at home to a stubborn Celtic in the Champions League on Tuesday.** Barcelona are firmly in charge of Group G on nine points from three matches played, five points ahead of second-placed Celtic. Spartak occupy third place on three points, with Benfica bringing up the rear on one point.

**GROUP H**  
**Manchester United came from 2-0 down to beat Braga 3-2 at home on Tuesday and go five points clear in Group H.** Alan scored in the second minute of the match at Old Trafford and again 18 minutes later to rock United but Javier Hernandez’s double, either side of a Jonny Evans equaliser, rescued all three points. Galatasaray collected their first point of the group stage with a 1-1 draw at home to CFR Cluj. United lead Group H on nine points, five ahead of Cluj, who are second on four points. Braga sit a point further back in the third, with Galatasaray bottom, having recorded a draw and two defeats from their three matches played.



Celtic came agonisingly close to pulling off an upset against Barcelona, but for an injury time winner from Jordi Alba.



By Alex Milic

**Serbia**  
**Partizan remains on top of the Serbian League with a two point advantage over rivals Red Star following Round 9. The defending champions edged out FK Rad in the derby match of the round. A tenth minute header from Bulgarian full back Ivan Ivanov was the only goal of the match. The visitors can count themselves very lucky to leave Rad with three points, the home side had dominated and missed a number of opportunities to find the back of the net.**

Red Star thrashed BSK Borca 7:2 in front of 10,000 fans at the ‘Markana’ with all seven goals scored by different players. Dimitrijevic and Mikic got things rolling in the 5th and 7th minute, youngster Ognjen Mudrinski made it 3:0 and five minutes before the halftime break Milunovic netted the home sides fourth. In the Second half Sotirovic scored for the visitors but only ten minutes later in the 69th minute it was 5:1 as Ghanaian import Asamoah found the back of the net. Former Melbourne Heart striker Eli Babalj was brought into the action with 15 minutes remain-



Prosinecki embarks on a Turkish adventure with Kayserispor

ing and came close to adding to the scoresheet but Pantic and Maksimovic scored two more for Red Star while Bulatovic added a second for the visitors. Vojvodina continued to slip out of title contention following a 1:1 draw with strugglers Hajduk in Novi Sad. In Round 10, Donji Srem welcomes Red Star, while Partizan takes on sixth place Novi Pazar.

**Croatia**  
**Dinamo Zagreb continues to dominate the Croatian League following yet another easy win. The six time consecutive Croatian champions were too good for Inter Zapresic with two second half goals from Puljic and Cop sinking the home side. However, in the Champi-**

ons League, Dinamo continues to struggle and find its pace amongst European football’s elite following another loss in the Group Stages, PSG was too good for Dinamo at the Maksimir winning 2:0. One of Croatia’s biggest clubs Hajduk Split woes continue following their fourth loss of the season to mid-table Istra. A goal with ten minutes remaining from Roce gave the little club a huge scalp and three valuable points which now puts them only three points within sixth placed Hajduk. The ‘Whites’ have won only five matches in the first 12 rounds and take on city rivals Split In the Dalmation derby this weekend. Slaven Koprivnica is second on the standings with captain and the Croatian League’s all time goal scorer Davor Vugrinec scoring a double

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## LIVE THE DREAM





EPL  
Wrap

By Andrew Bishara

# Racism Issues still Rife

There was little doubt that while there was an exhilarating exhibition of football over the weekend, the main focus sadly shifted away from the game and once again on to the issue of racism.

The strife began when a host of players – including Rio and Anton Ferdinand, Manchester City duo Micah Richards and Joleon Lescott and Reading striker Jason Roberts – refused to take apart in the league’s anti-campaign, perfectly titled “Kick It Out”. All players in the league were invited to wear T-Shirts during the warm-ups before games.

Roberts though, came out, angrily criticised the league saying that the campaign illustrated a lack of proper interest from the Football Association and demanding that players reject wearing the shirts.

“People ask me what I’m looking for, and the answer is pretty simple. It needs a serious approach to representation with proper resources to do the job that is needed to take things forward,” said Roberts.

“Kick It Out has done some substantial things, but as an organisation it is not seriously funded, and it should be”

But that was only the beginning of the storm that was brewing. Enter, Manchester United chief, Alex Ferguson who criticised the



The John Terry/Anton Ferdinand case has had lingering set backs for racism and the Kick It Out campaign in England.

Roberts for not uniting under one banner to help the cause.

“I have to disagree with Jason Roberts. I think he is making the wrong point. Everyone should be united, with all the players in the country wearing the Kick It Out warm-up tops” said Ferguson.

“But he really should be supporting all the rest of the players who are doing it.”

Ferguson’s problems only got worse, when he said that Rio Ferdinand would wear the shirt before United’s game against Stoke City. Rio didn’t, resulting in Ferguson saying he would “deal” with Ferdinand after he labeled his actions “embarrassing”.

Ferdinand’s reluctance stems from the John Terry racism case. Ferdinand and fellow players are angry at Terry’s punishment for racial abusing Anton Ferdinand, earlier this year. Terry has coped a four-match ban, yet Luis Suarez, was banned for eight matches, when he was charged for racially abusing United’s Patrice Evra. They see it as ‘double standards’ and have openly made their voiced their concerns about it.

FA Chairman David Bernstein,

though, admitted that following the row against Kick It Out, the Football Association will look into the process of how they are charging players for discrimination. Watch this space.

**Chelsea Underline Credentials. Behind all the controversy over the weekend, there was plenty of football action that was witnessed. Most tellingly, Chelsea underlining their status as title challengers. 2-1 down against Tottenham, earlier in the second half, Chelsea rammed up the style and blew away Spurs 4-2 with Juan Mata in the thick of all the action.**

The Blues are undefeated this season and have played some flowing, entertaining football. What’s more frightening, is that the team still really haven’t gelled together – which means when they do, they are going to look like the only team capable of battling the Manchester duo.

In regards to the Manchester teams, United dealt with Stoke City at Old Trafford, but there were some nervy moments for the Red Devils as defensive issues

ENGLAND EPL



Last 5 games  
Most recent first

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	
1 Chelsea	8	7	1	0	19	6	+13	22	W W W W D
2 Manchester United	8	6	0	2	21	11	+10	18	W W L W W
3 Manchester City	8	5	3	0	17	9	+8	18	W W W D D
4 Everton	8	4	3	1	15	9	+6	15	D D W W D
5 Tottenham Hotspur	8	4	2	2	15	12	+3	14	L W W W W
6 West Bromwich ...	8	4	2	2	12	9	+3	14	L W D W L
7 West Ham United	8	4	2	2	12	9	+3	14	W L W D D
8 Fulham	8	4	1	3	16	11	+5	13	W D L W W
9 Arsenal	8	3	3	2	13	6	+7	12	L W D L W
10 Swansea City	8	3	2	3	14	12	+2	11	W D L L L
11 Newcastle United	8	2	4	2	9	12	-3	10	D L D W D
12 Liverpool	8	2	3	3	10	12	-2	9	W D W L D
13 Stoke City	8	1	5	2	8	9	-1	8	L D W L D
14 Sunderland	7	1	5	1	6	8	-2	8	D L W D D
15 Norwich City	8	1	3	4	6	17	-11	6	W L L L D
16 Wigan Athletic	8	1	2	5	8	15	-7	5	L D L L L
17 Aston Villa	8	1	2	5	6	13	-7	5	L D L D W
18 Southampton	8	1	1	6	13	24	-11	4	L D L W L
19 Reading	7	0	3	4	8	14	-6	3	L D D L L
20 QPR	8	0	3	5	7	17	-10	3	D L L L D

continue to plague Ferguson’s side. The only positive, is the outlet of goals that United can count on –with Robin Van Persie seamlessly slotting into the line-up and slowly forming a partnership with Wayne Rooney.

Champions City showed their grit, snatching a late victory against West Brom, when superb Edin Dzeko scored twice in the last 10 minutes. The Sky Blues were down to 10 men when James Milner was sent off early in the first half. But despite going a goal down, City lifted and for the second time this season Dzeko was thrown from the bench to spark a revival.

The biggest shock of the weekend though, was down in Norfolk. Norwich recorded their first win over the season, when they outplayed Arsenal in every possible way. The Gunners were flat-footed and the Canaries were happy to pounce on their misery – with Grant Holt firing in the only goal of the game. Chris Hughton played his cards right, instructing his team to restrict space for the Gunners, defend deep and playing on the counter. They deservedly won.

**EPL Preview. Which brings us to this week’s tantalising fixture list. Manchester City will be hosting Swansea at the Stadium of Light.** City though has a must-win Champions League clash with Dutch champions Ajax during the week. Recording a victory might be what Roberto Mancini needs at the moment – to kick start some momentum and get the Champions playing like they were last season.

Arsenal lock horns with QPR at the Emirates and given their history, of playing bad one week and then brilliant the next, expect Arsene Wenger’s men to come out guns blazing. They’ll need a win against Mark Hughes men, more than ever, because following that game they face the daunting trip to Old Trafford. More dropped points and the Gunners could be well out of the title race by Christmas.

And speaking of Old Trafford: no there will no game on there this weekend, as United will be travelling to Stamford Bridge in what is the pick of matches in Round Nine.

These two rivals have had a pick of classic matches over the past

couple of season. Most notably last season’s 3-1 win for United (where Torres sparked an epic comeback in the second half, only to miss an open net) and the 3-3 return game where United came back from three goals down, controversially thanks to two soft penalties.

This however, is a different time and a different Chelsea team. Roberto Di Matteo has taken the reigns with ease, carefully implementing a new game plan with the likes of Mata and new boys, Eder Hazard and Oscar leading the line.

So too has United, with Ferguson slowly ridding his side playing with wingers. Over the past couple of games, United have played a very central game, cramming in the likes of Danny Welbeck, Shinji Kagawa, Rooney and Van Persie all in one line up – with Cleverly and Scholes behind them. It’s a very unusual way of playing for Ferguson, but he is known for throwing the odd curve ball now and then.

With both having to play Champions League games during the week fatigue will be factor, so expect the teams to be rotated and changes to be made. If history is anything to tell us by this game will prove to be a cracker.

London Eye



By Robert Davis

It’s become common practice now that every season, Arsenal lose their key players, appear to struggle, then somehow manage to finish in one of the money spinning Champions League spots.

This campaign has started no differently. Robin Van Persie swapped the red side of London for the red side of Manchester and the Gunners have achieved their fourth worst start to a Premier League season eight games in.

It all seemed to be going so well for Arsene Wenger’s men though, even if goals were a little hard to come by at first.

The football was typically beautiful to watch, Van Persie’s departure meant they looked more like a team than a one man band and the new additions appeared to fit into Wenger’s system seamlessly. The first two games may have ended 0-0, but it was obvious to everyone watching that Arsenal might just challenge for the the Premier League title this season.

It was as if no one at the Emirates was worried, concentrating more on the fact they had kept two clean sheets other than the lack of goals. The performances alone proved to the fans that the goals would be coming, which they did. A 2-0 win at

Liverpool was followed by the 6-1 demolition of Southampton at home.

Fast forward one month, they sit ninth in the league, are ten points behind current leaders Chelsea and have just come off the back of a 1-0 loss to relegation favourites Norwich City.

Whereas most pundits and fans will scrutinise and pick at Arsenal’s supposed poor start, all hope is not lost for the 2004 champions.

The loss to Norwich was arguably their only poor performance of the season, whilst their only other loss earlier in the month came at home to Chelsea, a game they were unlucky not to come out of with a result.

A new and improved defensive unit has been highlighted and praised thanks to the ‘Steve Bould effect’ since he replaced Pat Rice as Wenger’s number two. Carl Jenkinson, most notably, has gone from a scared school boy thrown in at the deep end, to a player who could be England’s right-back in the not too distant future. Whilst at left-back, Kieran Gibbs looks nailed on to be a direct replacement for Ashley Cole, as long as he can keep away from serious injuries and members of popular girl bands.

Per Mertesacker and Thomas Vermaalen have formed a solid partnership at the back, complimenting each other’s style and helping Arsenal achieve the current joint best defensive record in the league alongside Chelsea having only conceded six goals. Mertesacker looks to have finally caught up with the rigours of the English game and hasn’t been exposed for his lack of pace as much as he was in his debut season with the Gunners.

What is more impressive is how they’ve coped with the loss of Alex Song in front of the back four. Ask-



ing Mikel Arteta (pictured above) to play a similar role akin to Andrea Pirlo for the first time in his career has left Song’s departure as a distant memory.

It’s Arteta’s midfield companion that has grabbed the headlines for Arsenal so far though, as Santi Carzola’s arrival from Malaga has been nothing short of an instant success. The 27-year-old has joined the long line of Spanish players who have lit up the Premier League and will be the difference between a good season and a great season at the Emirates. Jack Wilshire’s long term injury and Samir Nasri’s transfer to Manchester City left a hole for that attacking, creative instinct that was sorely missing last term. Chelsea have Juan Mata, Manchester City have David Silva and now Arsenal have Carzola to produce that moment of magic to turn draws into

wins. With Wilshire on the verge of his return, it’ll be hard to find a better midfield trio of the young Englishman, Arteta and Carzola.

It’s up top where the problems lie for Arsene Wenger’s men. Other than the clearly publicised lack of goals from new signing Olivier Giroud, the inconsistency in the front line is a big worry.

The third big arrival of the summer came in the shape of Lukas Podolski, a German international with over 100 caps and 44 goals for his national side, someone English fans know all to well after he helped Germany demolish England during the 2010 World Cup knock-out stages.

The ability to produce wonder goals and having a knack of finding himself in the right place at the right time are fantastic traits to have, for the most part though, Podolski can

flatter to deceive.

His ability on the ball and decision making have improved since his time at Bayern Munich, yet he can still drift in and out of games too much and doesn’t have as much of an impact on a game as you’d expect from someone with such pedigree. A fantastic squad player with bags of experience, but you would have to feel he would struggle to get a place in other rivals starting eleven.

Where you really start to feel for Arsenal fans though is having to watch two of the most frustrating players currently plying their trade in the Premier League.

Step forward Theo Walcott and Gervinho. Two players who will have you pulling your hair out before half-time. Their quality is produced too few and far between and are the constant source of moans and groans from the crowd. Walcott

Latest Results	This Week
Tottenham 2 - 4 Chelsea	Aston Villa v Norwich City
Fulham 1 - 0 Aston Villa	Arsenal v QPR
Liverpool 1 - 0 Reading	Reading v Fulham
Man Utd 4 - 2 Stoke City	Stoke City v Sunderland
Swansea City 2 - 1 Wigan	Wigan Athletic v West Ham
WBA 1 - 2 Man City	Man City v Swansea City
West Ham 4 - 1 Southampton	Everton v Liverpool
Norwich City 1 - 0 Arsenal	Newcastle United v WBA
Sunderland 1 - 1 Newcastle U	Southampton v Tottenham
QPR 1 - 1 Everton	Chelsea v Man Utd

**One To Watch This Weekend...**

The Merseyside Derby will be on this weekend. How will Brendan Rodgers' new Liverpool fair against David Moyes' high-flying Everton? Anticipate an engaging atmosphere, as one of England's great rivalries kicks off. Goals, bruises, tempers flaring and red cards (especially with Jonjo Shelvey) are to be expected.



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Wrap Italia

By Luca Cetta

## Juve outright leaders as Napoli fall in Turin

The top of the table clash went the way of Juventus after two late goals, while there was more woe for Milan away to Lazio. They, along with Inter, are keeping pace with the leaders, as Roma caused a coaching casualty.

Not since 1986-87 had Juventus and Napoli gone into such a highly anticipated contest with championship implications. When the southerners travelled to Turin that season they underlined their Scudetto credentials against the reigning champions with a 3-1 win.

In what was billed to stratospheric levels as an early-season Scudetto decider, the match pitted the only two remaining undefeated sides. They had also won six of seven matches to start the campaign. Would Juventus add to their amazing 46-game unbeaten streak? Could Napoli show their mettle? The only loss Juve have suffered during Antonio Conte's reign came against Napoli in last season's Coppa Italia Final. Then there was August's Super Cup, which Juve won 4-2 and saw a fuming Napoli boycott the trophy ceremony.



Martin Caceres (L) of FC Juventus celebrates after scoring the opening goal between FC Juventus and SSC Napoli.

The visitors weren't helped by the fact Edinson Cavani had to take a marathon journey home from Uruguay's World Cup qualifier in Bolivia. After missing his original flight the route from La Paz included stops in Montevideo, Buenos Aires, Madrid and Rome before landing in Naples. A day later was the trip to Turin. Meanwhile, the Bianconeri were without goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon and striker Mirko Vucinic.

It was tight and tense, but an enthralling contest throughout. Clear-cut chances were at a premium, although Cavani thumped the woodwork with a free kick and Claudio Marchisio was denied on the stroke of half-time. As the game looked to be headed for a draw, substitute Martin Caceres nodded Juve into an 80th minute lead. 60 seconds later fellow substitute Paul Pogba sealed the points with a fine volley. It was the 19-year-old's first goal

since his summer switch from Manchester United. Caceres was overjoyed with the win. "Obviously it was a difficult game for us between the joint leaders, but we deserved to win it and I am happy. I have to praise my teammates."

While Juve are flying high, Milan's form is that of a relegation candidate. Pressure was on after a terrible start to the season left them on seven points. Alexandre Pato was fit enough for a spot on the bench, but Robinho was sidelined.

Lazio have been transformed under Bosnian Vladimir Petkovic and after an even start took the lead through Hernanes' deflected effort. If there was an element of luck about that there could be no complaints about the second as Antonio Candreva let fly a scorching effort to give stand-in goalkeeper Marco Amelia no chance. It was three shortly after

ITALY

Serie A



	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Juventus	8	7	1	0	19	4	+15	22	W W W D W
2 Napoli	8	6	1	1	14	5	+9	19	L W W W D
3 Lazio	8	6	0	2	15	8	+7	18	W W W L L
4 Internazionale	8	6	0	2	13	6	+7	18	W W W W L
5 Roma	8	4	2	2	18	13	+5	14	W W L D W
6 Fiorentina	8	3	3	2	9	7	+2	12	D W L D D
7 Catania	8	3	2	3	9	13	-4	11	L W L W D
8 Sampdoria	8	3	2	3	10	10	+0	10	L L L D D
9 Genoa	8	2	3	3	10	12	-2	9	L D D D W
10 Udinese	8	2	3	3	8	11	-3	9	W L D D W
11 Parma	8	2	3	3	8	11	-3	9	W L D D D
12 Torino	8	2	4	2	9	5	+4	9	D L W D D
13 Atalanta	8	3	1	4	7	12	-5	8	W L L L W
14 Cagliari	8	2	2	4	5	11	-6	8	W W L L L
15 Milan	8	2	1	5	9	10	-1	7	L D W L L
16 Chievo	8	2	1	5	7	15	-8	7	D W L L L
17 Pescara	8	2	1	5	6	15	-9	7	L L W W D
18 Bologna	8	2	1	5	9	11	-2	7	L W L W D
19 Palermo	8	1	3	4	6	11	-5	6	D D W L L
20 Siena	8	2	2	4	9	10	-1	2	L L L W W

the break as Miroslav Klose was left all alone to finish.

A comeback was on the cards when Nigel De Jong got a touch at the back-post from Urby Emanuelson's free kick. Then the impressive Stephen El Shaarawy sent nerves through the Lazio camp with the second, but the hosts claimed a 3-2 win to stay equal third.

Inter were victorious versus Catania thanks to Antonio Cassano and Rodrigo Palacio, as Roma displayed their best and worst in Genoa. Down 2-0 inside 15 minutes, Francesco Totti started the comeback before Pablo Osvaldo scored either side of half time. Erik Lamela sealed the 4-2 win. It proved a costly defeat for Genoa boss Luigi De Canio, who was sacked and replaced by Luigi Delneri.

Australian James Troisi started in Atalanta's 2-1 triumph over Siena. He played 52 minutes before be-

ing substituted as the hosts recovered from going a goal down to win. Cagliari made it successive victories with a 1-0 success over travel-shy Bologna, as Chievo held Fiorentina to a 1-1 draw. Palermo and Torino played out a scoreless stalemate, while Amauri netted twice in Parma's 2-1 win over Sampdoria. Finally, ten-man Udinese defeated Pescara 1-0.

After facing Danish outfit Nord-sjaelland in a disappointing 1-1 Champions League draw, Juventus travels to Catania on Sunday. Never an easy fixture, it was a match which gave the Old Lady plenty of trouble last term, long before their unbeaten streak was close to any records. They recover Buffon and Vucinic, who both featured in midweek.

Inter and Lazio are also on the road at Bologna and Fiorentina respectively. While Inter will be expected to triumph, the latter looks an intriguing contest between two

of the best ball-playing sides in Serie A. However, the Viola are without their maestro David Pizarro, who is suspended. Fellow European contestant Napoli is at home to Chievo. Marek Hamsik claims they are angry after the loss in Turin and will look to take out frustrations on the visitors.

Milan again focuses on domestic duties after their Champions League clash with Malaga. Their aim against Genoa is to – incredibly – climb into the top half of the table. The visitors are two points up on the Rossoneri and also looking to bounce back under a new tactician.

Elsewhere, revitalised duo Roma and Udinese meet, as Pescara hosts Atalanta. Sampdoria are hoping to arrest their slide at home to Cagliari, while the bottom two clash when Siena hosts Palermo. Finally, Torino entertains Parma with the pair locked on nine points.

Latest Results	This Week
Juventus 2 - 0 Napoli	Siena v Palermo
Lazio 3 - 2 Milan	Milan v Genoa
Cagliari 1 - 0 Bologna	Catania v Juventus
Atalanta 2 - 1 Siena	Bologna v Inter
Chievo 1 - 1 Fiorentina	Fiorentina v Lazio
Inter 2 - 0 Catania	Pescara v Atalanta
Palermo 0 - 0 Torino	Sampdoria v Cagliari
Parma 2 - 1 Sampdoria	Torino v Parma
Udinese 1 - 0 Pescara	Napoli v Chievo
Genoa 2 - 4 Roma	Roma v Udinese
	Tues Palermo v Milan
	Wed Atalanta v Napoli

One To Watch This Weekend...

Fiorentina hosting Lazio will be a pleasing spectacle for the neutral and pits sixth against third.



Viva Espana

By Pepe Lopez

26 year old Colombian Radamel Falcao kept Atletico Madrid level at the top of the Spanish La Liga with Barcelona FC, with a stunning last minute free kick against Real Sociedad from the Basque Region of Spain. With scores locked at nil-all, Falcao broke the dead lock against the run of play, with a beautiful curling and dipping free kick over the Real Sociedad wall and past goal keeper Zubikarai.

The Colombian striker remains the hottest property in all of Europe right now due to Atletico Madrid's precarious financial position, with the cashed up clubs knowing that if they make the right offer in the next transfer window, the player will move. Atletico Madrid were virtually singled out by UEFA's gradual governance measures in the name of "Financial Fair Play", due to bad debts including unpaid transfer fees, unpaid government taxes and outstanding players and other employees wages. Atletico were in UEFA's scope, primarily due to noise from Falcao's previous club Porto FC of Portugal, who claimed they were still owed money from Atletico from Falcao's transfer last year.



The much sought after Radamel Falcao continues to drive the Atletico Madrid La Liga title push amid rumours of transfer speculation.

The major source of Atletico Madrid's financial troubles stem from a large tax debt. It is believed that Atletico Madrid's tax debt to the Spanish Government was recently as high 155 million Euros, with the majority of the 50 million Euros Atletico Madrid received from Manchester City for Argentine striker Sergio Aguero, given directly back to the Spanish Tax Department.

Many Spanish clubs have high debts, and many clubs have bankruptcy protection. Atletico Madrid have with exception to profits made on player transfers, an agreement to repay a minimum of 15 million Euros back to the Government each year, which simply equates

to 4.5% interest on their current outstanding debt. With new taxes also accumulating, Atletico Madrid are not likely to get out of financial difficulties any time soon. Nor are most of Spain's La Liga clubs.

Hence the many years of UEFA's talk of European "Financial Fair Play", but very little action.

Ultimately, UEFA wish to have the same financial governance of clubs that the German FA has on its Bundesliga Clubs. In Germany, all Bundesliga clubs need to present to the German FA a positive financial balance for the previous financial year, and a positive forecast for the upcoming financial year to be eligible to participate in the Bundesliga.

SPAIN

La Liga



Last5games

Most recent first

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	
1 Barcelona	8	7	1	0	24	11	+13	22	W D W W W
2 Atlético Madrid	8	7	1	0	19	8	+11	22	W W W W W
3 Málaga	8	5	2	1	13	5	+8	17	W L W D W
4 Real Madrid	8	4	2	2	16	7	+9	14	W D W W L
5 Sevilla	8	4	2	2	11	9	+2	14	W L L W W
6 Real Betis	8	4	1	3	12	13	-1	13	D W L L W
7 Levante	8	4	1	3	9	13	-4	13	W W L W L
8 Mallorca	8	3	2	3	10	9	+1	11	L L L W D
9 Valencia	8	3	2	3	11	11	+0	11	W L W L W
10 Real Valladolid	8	3	1	4	12	9	+3	10	L D W L L
11 Getafe	8	3	1	4	8	11	-3	10	L W L L L
12 Rayo Vallecano	8	3	1	4	11	17	-6	10	L W L L L
13 Celta de Vigo	8	3	0	5	9	10	-1	9	L W L W L
14 Real Zaragoza	8	3	0	5	7	10	-3	9	W L L W L
15 Real Sociedad	8	3	0	5	8	12	-4	9	L L W L W
16 Granada	8	2	2	4	7	12	-5	8	L W W L D
17 Athletic Club	8	2	2	4	11	17	-6	8	L W L D D
18 Deportivo La C...	8	1	3	4	13	19	-6	6	L L L L D
19 Espanyol	8	1	2	5	11	15	-4	5	W D L L D
20 Osasuna	8	1	2	5	7	11	-4	5	D L W L D

Understandably, German clubs are not happy about the current state of play in UEFA's club competitions. Bayern Munich President Uli Hoeness was quoted as saying "This is unthinkable. We pay them (Spanish clubs) hundreds of millions to get them out of the shit, and then the clubs don't pay their debts." The British Newspaper "The Independent" labelled the collective Spanish clubs financial debts as "Financial Doping". In Germany, "Bild" newspaper asked "How long German tax payers would be asked to subsidise the wages of Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo?"

In the name of "Financial Fair Play" UEFA recently issued the

following statement; "The Club Financial Control Body's investigatory chamber has identified that important overdue payables towards other clubs, and/or towards employees or social/tax authorities existed in 23 cases. 23 clubs involved in 2012/13 Uefa club competitions have seen the payment of their prize money temporarily withheld pending further investigation."

Whilst the penalties will put further pressure on clubs with debts, withholding prize money from Atletico Madrid, UEFA's current Europa League Champions and UEFA Super Cup Winners, does little to resolve their immediate financial troubles.

One wonders if Atletico Madrid are not simply better off going bust like Rangers of Scotland have done. In Scotland, the entity previously owning the Rangers name no longer exists, nor does the debt, and a new entity has been created with the Rangers name. The only penalty for doing this has been relegation to the bottom football division in Scotland, however, despite participating in Scotland's division four, the new Rangers club has sold over 30,000 season tickets for the 2012/13 season, with that support, it will only be a few years before Rangers rise up again through the divisions and back into the top Scottish Premier League.



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CROATIA

EPL



Last5games  
Most recent first


	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	
1 Dinamo Zagreb	12	9	2	1	29	11	+18	29	W W W L D
2 Slaven Koprivnica	12	7	1	4	22	20	+2	22	W L D L L
3 Osijek	12	5	6	1	15	7	+8	21	W D W W D
4 Split	12	6	2	4	20	15	+5	20	W D D L W
5 Lokomotiva	12	5	4	3	17	14	+3	19	D W D W L
6 Hajduk Split	12	5	3	4	20	13	+7	18	L W L W D
7 Rijeka	12	5	3	4	16	16	+0	18	L W L W W
8 Istra 1961	12	4	3	5	10	12	-2	15	W L L L D
9 Inter Zaprešić	12	2	5	5	14	17	-3	11	L D D W D
10 Cibalia	12	3	2	7	12	20	-8	11	L L W L W
11 Zadar	12	1	4	7	11	22	-11	7	L L W L L
12 Zagreb	12	1	3	8	6	25	-19	6	D D L W D

GERMANY Bundesliga



	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Bayern München	8	8	0	0	26	2	+24	24	W W W W W
2 Eintracht Fran...	8	6	1	1	19	11	+8	19	W L W D W
3 Schalke 04	8	5	2	1	17	8	+9	17	W W D W L
4 Borussia Dortmund	8	3	3	2	18	11	+7	12	L D W D L
5 Bayer Leverkusen	8	3	3	2	13	11	+2	12	D D W W D
6 Hannover 96	8	3	2	3	16	13	+3	11	L D L W L
7 Freiburg	8	3	2	3	13	10	+3	11	W L L L D
8 Mainz 05	8	3	2	3	9	10	-1	11	D W L W L
9 Werder Bremen	8	3	1	4	14	13	+1	10	W L L W D
10 Hamburger SV	8	3	1	4	9	11	-2	10	L W W D W
11 Fortuna Düsseldorf	8	2	4	2	6	8	-2	10	L L D W D
12 Stuttgart	8	2	3	3	8	14	-6	9	W D W L D
13 Borussia M'gla...	8	2	3	3	9	16	-7	9	L W L D D
14 Hoffenheim	8	2	2	4	13	17	-4	8	D L D W W
15 Nürnberg	8	2	2	4	7	14	-7	8	D L L L L
16 Augsburg	8	1	3	4	5	11	-6	6	D W D L L
17 Greuther Fürth	8	1	2	5	5	14	-9	5	D L L L D
18 Wolfsburg	8	1	2	5	2	15	-13	5	L L L L D

THE CHAMPIONSHIP



Last5games

Most recent first

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	
1 Leicester City	12	8	1	3	19	10	+9	25	W D W W W
2 Cardiff City	12	8	1	3	22	15	+7	25	W L W W W
3 Middlesbrough	12	7	1	4	19	17	+2	22	W W W D L
4 Crystal Palace	12	6	3	3	21	20	+1	21	D D W W W
5 Wolverhampton ...	12	6	2	4	17	13	+4	20	D L W L W
6 Huddersfield Town	12	6	2	4	18	15	+3	20	L W W L L
7 Leeds United	12	5	4	3	20	18	+2	19	D D W D W
8 Hull City	12	6	1	5	18	17	+1	19	L W W L L
9 Brighton & Hov...	12	5	3	4	15	8	+7	18	L D D L L
10 Nottingham Forest	12	4	6	2	16	13	+3	18	D W W D L
11 Blackpool	12	5	2	5	21	17	+4	17	D L L W L
12 Derby County	12	4	5	3	18	15	+3	17	W D D D W
13 Blackburn Rovers	11	4	5	2	17	14	+3	17	D L D D L
14 Burnley	12	5	2	5	26	25	+1	17	W W L D D
15 Watford	12	5	1	6	17	20	-3	16	L W L W W
16 Bolton Wanderers	12	4	3	5	18	20	-2	15	D W L D L
17 Barnsley	12	4	3	5	14	16	-2	15	D W L L D
18 Charlton Athletic	12	3	4	5	13	14	-1	13	D L W L D
19 Millwall	12	3	4	5	19	24	-5	13	D D W D D
20 Birmingham City	12	3	4	5	14	21	-7	13	D D L L W
21 Bristol City	12	3	2	7	23	26	-3	11	L L L D L
22 Sheffield Wedn...	11	2	3	6	15	22	-7	9	D D L D L
23 Peterborough U...	12	3	0	9	13	20	-7	9	W L L W W
24 Ipswich Town	12	1	4	7	10	23	-13	7	L L L D D

Greece

Super League



	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games <i>Most recent first</i>
1 Olympiakos Piraeus	7	7	0	0	18	3	+15	21	W W W W W
2 PAOK	7	5	1	1	12	4	+8	16	D W D W W
3 Panionios	7	5	0	2	7	6	+1	15	L W W L W
4 Asteras Tripolis	7	4	1	2	10	4	+6	13	W L D W L
5 Platania	7	3	2	2	9	6	+3	11	L W W L D
6 Atromitos	7	2	4	1	6	4	+2	10	D D L D D
7 OFI	7	2	3	2	7	7	+0	9	W D L W L
8 Veria	7	2	2	3	5	8	-3	8	D L W W D
9 Panathinaikos	7	2	4	1	6	5	+1	8	D W D D L
10 PAS Giannina	7	2	2	3	7	6	+1	8	W L W L L
11 Kerkyra	7	2	2	3	5	9	-4	8	W D W L D
12 Aris	7	1	3	3	4	9	-5	6	D L L W D
13 Panthrakikos	7	2	0	5	5	11	-6	6	L W L L W
14 Levadiakos	7	1	2	4	3	9	-6	5	D L L W D
15 Xanthi	7	1	2	4	5	13	-8	5	L L L L D
16 AEK Athens	7	0	2	5	3	8	-5	2	D L L L D

TURKEY

La Liga



Last5games  
Most recent first


	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	
1 Galatasaray	8	4	3	1	19	12	+7	15	D D L W W
2 Antalyaspor	8	5	0	3	14	10	+4	15	W W W L L
3 Orduspor	8	3	5	0	12	7	+5	14	D W D W D
4 Gençlerbirliği	8	3	4	1	16	10	+6	13	D W W D L
5 Kasımpaşa	8	4	1	3	13	7	+6	13	D L W L W
6 Fenerbahçe	8	3	4	1	10	5	+5	13	D W L D W
7 Eskişehirspor	8	4	1	3	16	12	+4	13	W D W L W
8 Trabzonspor	8	3	4	1	7	4	+3	13	D W D W D
9 Sivasspor	8	3	3	2	10	10	+0	12	L D W W L
10 İstanbul BB	8	3	2	3	8	6	+2	11	W L L D W
11 Bursaspor	8	2	4	2	12	10	+2	10	D D D D W
12 Beşiktaş	8	2	3	3	13	12	+1	9	D L L L W
13 Gaziantepspor	8	2	2	4	5	11	-6	8	D D W L W
14 Karabükspor	8	2	2	4	10	17	-7	8	L D W W L
15 Kayserispor	8	2	1	5	8	16	-8	7	L W L W L
16 Akhisar Beledi...	8	1	4	3	3	11	-8	7	D D L L L
17 Mersin İdmanyurdu	8	0	5	3	10	14	-4	5	D L D D L
18 Elazığspor	8	0	4	4	4	16	-12	4	D L D L D

HOLLAND Eredivisie



	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Twente	9	7	1	1	20	6	+14	22	D W L W W
2 PSV	9	7	0	2	31	8	+23	21	W W W W L
3 Vitesse	9	6	3	0	18	7	+11	21	W D W D W
4 Ajax	9	4	5	0	23	10	+13	17	D D W D W
5 Feyenoord	9	5	2	2	16	11	+5	17	W D W L W
6 Utrecht	9	4	3	2	11	8	+3	15	W D L W W
7 NEC	9	3	3	3	14	17	-3	12	W D L D D
8 ADO Den Haag	9	2	5	2	17	15	+2	11	L D D D W
9 Heracles	9	2	5	2	16	15	+1	11	D W D D W
10 Groningen	9	3	2	4	11	19	-8	11	L D W W L
11 Heerenveen	9	2	4	3	12	12	+0	10	W D W L L
12 RKC Waalwijk	9	2	4	3	12	14	-2	10	L L D D L
13 AZ	9	2	3	4	14	18	-4	9	L D L D W
14 Roda JC	9	2	2	5	10	16	-6	8	D W L L L
15 PEC Zwolle	9	2	2	5	6	15	-9	8	W L W L L
16 Willem II	9	1	3	5	7	17	-10	6	L W L D L
17 NAC Breda	9	1	2	6	5	20	-15	5	L L L W L
18 VVV	9	0	3	6	9	24	-15	3	L L L D D

# LEAGUE ONE



Last5games

Most recent first

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	
1 Tranmere Rovers	14	9	3	2	31	13	+18	30	L L W W W
2 Stevenage	14	8	5	1	20	12	+8	29	W W L W W
3 Sheffield United	14	7	7	0	18	10	+8	28	W D W D W
4 Crawley Town	14	9	1	4	22	18	+4	28	W W W L W
5 Notts County	14	7	4	3	26	15	+11	25	D W W L L
6 Doncaster Rovers	13	7	3	3	18	12	+6	24	W W D W L
7 Swindon Town	14	6	4	4	19	14	+5	22	L D D W L
8 Preston North End	14	6	3	5	24	18	+6	21	W D L D W
9 Brentford	14	5	6	3	19	15	+4	21	W L D W D
10 Milton Keynes Dons	14	5	5	4	15	11	+4	20	L D D D
11 Yeovil Town	14	6	1	7	24	21	+3	19	W W L W L
12 Colchester United	14	5	4	5	15	16	-1	19	W W W L W
13 Carlisle United	14	5	4	5	17	23	-6	19	W D L W L
14 Portsmouth	14	5	3	6	22	22	+0	18	L W D W D
15 Walsall	14	5	3	6	17	20	-3	18	L D L L L
16 Crewe Alexandra	14	4	5	5	14	20	-6	17	W D L W L
17 Oldham Athletic	13	4	4	5	14	14	+0	16	L W D W W
18 Leyton Orient	14	5	1	8	11	17	-6	16	L W L L L
19 AFC Bournemouth	14	3	6	5	20	25	-5	15	D W W L L
20 Shrewsbury Town	14	3	4	7	14	18	-4	13	L L W L D
21 Coventry City	14	2	5	7	14	22	-8	11	L D W D W
22 Scunthorpe United	14	2	4	8	11	24	-13	10	L D L L D
23 Bury	14	1	5	8	14	26	-12	8	W D L L L
24 Hartlepool United	14	1	4	9	11	24	-13	7	L L L D L





# THE FUTURE OF FOOTBALL

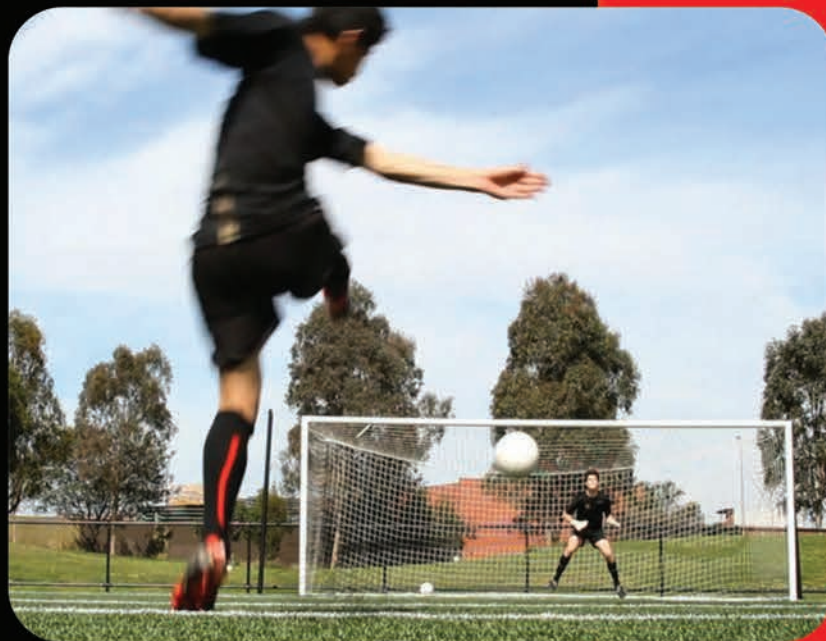
| High Performance | Player Development |  
| Coach Development | Events | Tours | Programs |

## FC 11 PLAYER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP

FC 11 through its association with current professional players, elite coaches, high performance specialists and contacts with overseas football associations, has created the "FC 11 High Performance Course of Football Studies".

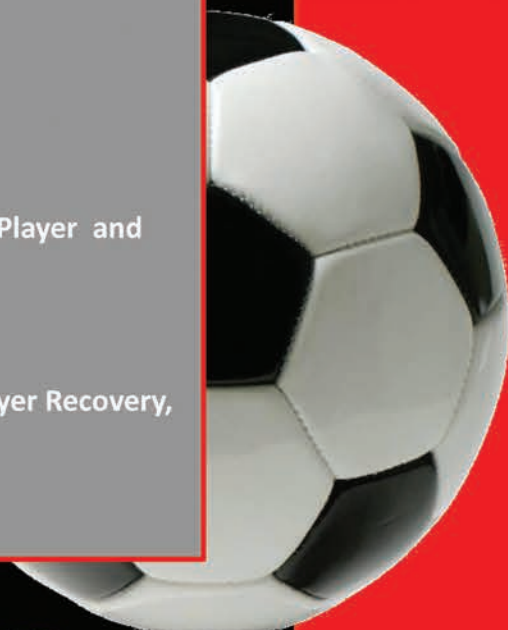
The "FC 11" High Performance Football (Player Development) Program provides the 'complete' football oriented curriculum experience, whilst assisting in the opportunity for valid education and training.

The program will deliver a high performance based and intense football syllabus designed to realize further opportunities in the sport through the development of skills related to the technical, tactical, psychological and physical aspects of the modern game.



### INCLUDED IN THE COURSE ARE:

- Assistance to complete Football & Futsal Specific FFA Coaching Qualifications
- Opportunity for Academic Progression and Recognition
- Sports Specific Applied Experience
- Football Specific Lectures in: Elite Player Performance, Football Programing, Skill Acquisition, Player and Game Analysis
- Fitness Assessments & Player Profiling throughout the course
- Specific Sessions on Improving Performance in: Strength, Speed & Conditioning, Nutrition, Player Recovery, Sports Psychology, Tactical & Technical Game Fundamentals
- Customised Player Apparel



### PLAYERS WILL ALSO GET ACCESS TO:

- Three major "Football Pro" player camps
- Opportunities to tour overseas
- Overseas specialist coaches
- Overseas and local scouts (talent identification)

*Enquire now about our "full year round" football scholarship opportunities.*

*Enrolments for 2013 are being taken NOW - contact FC 11 TODAY*



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